

ARMY



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THE ARMY LEGISLATION.

SOMETHING more than two months ago, General GRANT, in his annual report to the War Department, remarked:

While the Indian war continues I do not deem any general legislation for the reduction of the Army advisable. The troops on the Plains are all needed. Troops are still needed in the Southern States, and further reduction can be made in the way already used, and now in operation where it is safe, namely, by allowing companies to diminish by discharges without being strengthened by recruit, and by stepping appointments of second lieutenants.

To this, however, he added that "should it be deemed advisable," the veteran reserve regiments could be discontinued by absorption and retirement of officers, and discharge of men, without detriment to the service.

The phrase "while the Indian war continues" has been caught up by certain Congressmen as a reason not only for reducing the Army by "general legislation" but for reducing it in a way totally at variance with the moderate plan pointed out by the General-in-Chief and President-elect.

It would be easy to point out the various ways in which a Regular Army of the present size could for some time yet be profitably employed. It would be easy, for example, to show that two months have not entirely pacified the Southern States; that though, thanks to the energy and skill of SHERMAN, SHERIDAN, and their subordinates, the Indians have been badly whipped, yet their own war-trail usually begins in May, not in February, and that we are not yet sure that either fear or hope has so eradicated the instinct of revenge, as well as that of plunder from them, as to guarantee unprotected outposts and travellers against their casual raids.

But Congress is bent, apparently, on reducing the Army by "general legislation" forthwith; and as the contest seems to have turned to one between the moderate and judicious on the one hand, and the violent and vindictive on the other, it only remains to give the former the best support we can. Indeed, the great reduction of the appropriations asked for—more than one-fourth in pay, and the same in subsistence of troops; a full half in officers' quarters and mileage, and in recruiting; a quarter in the commutation of officers' subsistence; two millions in the Quartermaster's Department, and two-and-a-half millions in transportation—these and other heavy reductions by the House in the schedule for the next fiscal year, make a reduction of the forces imperative.

General GARFIELD represents this session, as he did the last, the moderate element in the House. To him, rather than to such members as Generals BUTLER, LOGAN, and SCHENCK, who seem possessed with an intense hatred against "West Point" and against the Regular Army, and rather than to such members as Mr. WINDOM, who join their forces the anti-Army legion, because they believe in

the Indian Bureau system, upon which the Army officers wage constant war—to General GARFIELD and the House Military Committee we say, must the country look for reduction that will not be ruinous, and for economy which will not be the fruit of infamous injustice.

The measure which Mr. GARFIELD introduced from the House Military Committee aimed to include the two points we have already quoted from General GRANT's report, and which constitute substantially all of that report—namely, first, the transfer of the Indian Bureau to the War Department; secondly, a reduction of the Army by consolidation and absorption.

This measure was immediately pounced upon, and the first provision—the Indian transfer—had to be stricken out, while the second was made the occasion of savage attack. It is not pretended that the reduction proposed by the House Committee is insufficient in amount; but because it is proposed that this reduction, in the case of officers, shall be gradual rather than instant, it has been violently attacked.

We have no sufficient words to express our indignation at the flagrant injustice at the proposition of some members of the House, to cut down the officers of our Army by a sudden stroke, turning many of them adrift from their professions with hardly a day's warning. Did we believe it would be consummated, we should denounce it and its authors as it deserves. It cannot even plead the excuse of necessity. On the contrary, it is familiar experience that the casualties of service—death, resignation, and dismissal—make vast inroads every year in both officers and men.

We have no hesitation in expressing the conviction that this natural reduction of the Army is the only wise and proper one, even at the present juncture, both for officers and men. We believe that, instead of discharging peremptorily enlisted men who have been recruited at great expense, clothed, drilled, transported, and made into good soldiers, by a sudden cutting off of ten, twenty, or thirty entire regiments, the ordinary depletion, which is so great every month, should be suffered to work. Check enlistments, muster out the utterly worthless, and consolidate the remainder, and before long the Army will reduce itself to pocket size. In three years it would be reduced to nothing, by mere expiration of terms of service; and in a twelvemonth it would already reach the Congressional limit, probably, giving in the meantime, a chance for gradual changes in station, in the disposition of troops, and in the consolidation of remaining regiments.

If such would be true of the enlisted men, there is tenfold more reason why this method should be pursued with officers. True, with them there is no "expiration of term of service," but the reductions by death, resignation, and dismissals are exceedingly great. In the year 1867 alone, as Mr. GARFIELD showed, no less than one hundred and fourteen officers left the service; and the official columns of the JOURNAL will show how rapid is this process of depletion.

But we rest our plea for reduction by absorption on a different and higher ground. The officers of our Army are a body of professional soldiers, honorable and honored. They have adopted the military life as an occupation, and that because they were invited to do so by the country which educated them, and called them to its service. Many of

them bear the wounds they have received in the country's defence. Most of them were raised to their present position as a reward for conspicuous skill and gallantry. The shabbiness of that conduct which would turn them, not only out of their present positions, but out of their profession with an utterly unnecessary harshness, must be apparent to anybody. In eloquent language, General GARFIELD urged this consideration the other day. But he was met with such arguments as that of Mr. WINDOM, in the House, who declared that "it was very seldom that an officer drawing good pay either died or resigned," and as that of the *Tribune*, in the press, that he would make of the Army a "gigantic soup-house."

We cannot believe, however, that Congress will sanction the ingratitude and meanness of the proposition to muster out all extra officers *instantly*, more especially as it is so clear that they will be rapidly absorbed in the consolidation of regiments, and in the vacancies by casualty. Were there no other consideration in the matter, it would seem that the true way to reorganize an Army is to *first* fix the strength and composition of the forces, and then provide that the transition from the old establishment to the new, shall be effected with the least possible injury and loss to the officers who are sacrificed.

The Indian Appropriation Bill passed the House after a debate in which the Indian Bureau fared roughly at the hands of Mr. GARFIELD and others. Mr. GARFIELD denounced the Bureau as one more thoroughly corrupt than any other branch of administration that he had ever heard of. The very nature of that service was one which allowed all the baser and more corrupt passions to effloresce and develop themselves. He declared that he never would vote for appropriations of money that were to flow through the unclean channels of the Indian Bureau. And General BUTLER, though of course not in favor of giving the Indians to the War Department, was yet equally severe on the Bureau. Many years ago JOHN RANDOLPH of Virginia had said, with cutting sarcasm, "that to be an Indian agent would corrupt the angel GABRIEL." He advocated an entire change of system, and recommended that pursued by the State of Massachusetts, which dealt with the Indians as wards of the State, and permitted no bargains to be made with them. The course of this Indian debate was roughened by a Mr. HOLBROOK, a delegate from Idaho, who gave General BUTLER the lie and persisted in doing so. The refractory Idahoan was, by vote of the House, censured by the Speaker, and General BUTLER then proceeded to discuss the bill without noticing the event. Mr. WINDOM, of Minnesota, further enlivened the debate by charging Army officers with "stealing." These are Mr. WINDOM's reported words: "If the Chairman of the Military Committee (Mr. GARFIELD) would look after the stealings of the military men in the commutation of fuel, quarters, etc., he would find that more money was stolen every year, actually stolen, than there was appropriated for the whole Indian service of the country. He was not here to defend the Indian service; he had endeavored on various occasions to prevent this corruption, and had brought in a measure which would have prevented it, but the gentleman from Ohio had met it, as he always did, with his transfer to the War Department as a cure for the evil." Why does not the virtuous Mr. WINDOM move an investigation?

THE ARMY.

THE Headquarters of the Thirty-ninth Infantry have been changed from Ship Island, Mississippi, to New Orleans, Louisiana. The Headquarters of the Fourth Cavalry from Fort Concho, Texas, to Austin, Texas.

THE officers of the Twelfth and Forty-fourth regiments of Infantry, stationed at Lincoln Barracks, Washington, D. C., invited their friends to a hop on Monday evening last, February 8th, which was largely attended. Excellent music was furnished by the Twelfth Infantry band, and no pains were spared by the officers having the affair in charge to insure a pleasant entertainment. At Fort Russell, Dakota, a masquerade ball was given January 28th, by the officers of the Second Cavalry. We have received a glowing account of the affair from a local paper, which breaks out in an irruption of "display headings"—"GRAND MASQUERADE BALL AT FORT RUSSELL—SPLENDID COSTUMES—MAGNIFICENT SUPPER—A COMPLETE SUCCESS." The entertainment, it tells us, "was generously given by the commander of the post; and, as the Frenchman said 'nothing succeeds like success,' this entertainment will be succeeded by another on the part of the cavalry, who are not willing to be outdone in gallantry and generosity." We are indebted to the officers of Governor's Island for the courtesy of an invitation to a hop given by them on Monday evening last, at which they had a most delightful gathering of their friends.

A CORRESPONDENT writes us that Cullen Baker, the notorious desperado who has for so long a time infested north-eastern Texas, and southern Arkansas, was shot and killed by his brother-in-law, on January 7th, and his dead body brought into the post of Jefferson, Texas, and delivered to Brevet Brigadier-General G. P. Buel, lieutenant-colonel Twenty-ninth Infantry, commanding. One of Baker's gang, named Kirby, was shot and killed at the same time with Baker. This man Baker has been the terror of north-east Texas for a long time; killing and robbing indiscriminately Rebels and Union men. He was a cool, bloodthirsty villain, sparing none who incurred his anger or vengeance, and his death is a blessing to humanity in general and north-east Texas in particular. One of his latest outrages was the taking of a man out of his house late at night, tying him to a tree, compelling the victim's wife to hold a lighted candle before her eyes. Yet men in the town of Jefferson, who pass for respectable members of society, openly deprecated the killing of this wretch Baker, and more than one of these men have been heard to say on the public streets that Baker was one of the noblest and most high-toned gentleman in that section of the country. Query—If he was, what must be the character of those left?

THE following joint resolutions passed by the Legislature of Kansas, have been received by Congress and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs:

Resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring. That Congress is hereby earnestly memorialized to transfer the control and management of Indian affairs from the Interior to the War Department, and that our representatives in Congress be respectfully requested, and our senators instructed, to use their best efforts to secure this end.

Resolved. That the Secretary of State be requested to forward duly certified copies of the foregoing resolution to our representatives and senators in Congress, also to the President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House of Representatives.

THE following joint resolution relating to Homesteads for Soldiers is now before the Senate Committee on Public Lands:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled: That in all cases where soldiers in the military service of the United States have filed on the public lands of the United States, under the homestead and preemption laws, in the land office at which such lands shall have been subject to sale, and who shall have returned to their improvements thereon within six months of the date of their discharge from such military service, and continued according to law to occupy and improve the same, that in computing the time which they by law are required to occupy the said tract claimed, that the time in which they were thus absent on military service shall be included as if this personal residence had continued thereon; and no soldier thus in said military service shall be required to make up additional time for term of such absence when he has in other respects conformed to the law.

THE officers stationed at the military post of Columbia, South Carolina, have addressed the following circular letter to their friends in Congress:

We, the undersigned officers of the Eight Regiment U. S. Infantry, respectfully ask your official influence in procuring the passage of an Act by Congress giving to the officers of the Army an increase of pay.

While conscious that this procedure is unusual, and of the nature of a presumptuous official suggestion; yet the fear, that in the presence of more important public affairs, our necessities may be obscured, must be our apology. The existing rates of pay were those established before the war, when gold was the basis of interchange; and were then deemed equitable and fairly remunerative; now the same numerical sum in the depreciated value of the national currency corresponds to but three-fourths of our annual allowances prior to that period; and this is largely encroached upon by the deductions of income taxation. The proportional increased compensation of all other professions and trades, conforms to the advance in gold and the price of commodities of life; ours alone is for the two foregoing reasons far less than formerly: and with officers of inferior grades, this compensation is insufficient, even with scrupulous economy, for the fair maintenance of themselves and families.

It is neither important nor desirable to more than briefly define the ground of our solicitation, as the correlative facts are too familiar to your knowledge, and too obvious to your judgment to require elucidation.

It is doubtless impressed upon your recollection that a similar measure was officially recommended to the attention of Congress, by the illustrious General-in-Chief, but a few months since; and it is pertinent to say that so far as our information extends, his opinion is universally shared by all other officers of the Army.

In their behalf and our own we earnestly appeal to you for support in such manner as you may deem consistent in furthering this act of national justice.

ROSTERS.

DEPARTMENT OF THE CUMBERLAND.

THE following were the stations of troops serving in the Department of the Cumberland on the 1st of January:

DISTRICT OF KENTUCKY.—Brevet Brigadier-General S. Burbank, Second U. S. Infantry, Louisville, Ky.

Louisville, Ky., Companies A, F, H, and I, Second Infantry, Brevet Major-General S. W. Crawford, lieutenant-colonel; *Jeffersonville, Ind.*, Company D, Forty-fifth Infantry, Brevet Lieutenant Colonel F. E. Trotter, captain; *Lexington, Ky.*, Company D, Second Infantry, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel William Falck, captain; *Bowling Green, Ky.*, Company E, Second Infantry, Captain Thos. Byrne; *Danville, Ky.*, Company C, Second Infantry, First Lieutenant Thomas Drury; *Louis, Ky.*, Company B, Second Infantry, Captain F. E. Lacey; *Union, Monroe Co., West Va.*, Company G, Second Infantry, Brevet Major George H. McLoughlin, captain; *Guyandotte, West Va.*, Company K, Second Infantry, Brevet Major A. W. Kroutinger, captain; *Lebanon, Ky.*, detachment Second Infantry, Second Lieutenant Josias R. King; *Logan County C. H., West Va.*, detachment Second Infantry, Second Lieutenant J. C. Bateman.

DISTRICT OF MEMPHIS.—Brevet Major-General Gordon Granger, colonel Twenty-fifth Infantry, Memphis, Tenn. *Paducah, Ky.*, Companies E and F, Twenty-fifth Infantry, Brevet Colonel P. T. Swaine, major; *Memphis, Tenn.*, Companies A, C, D, and K, Twenty-fifth Infantry, Brevet Major-General Emory Upton, lieutenant-colonel; *Columbus, Ky.*, Company I, Twenty-fifth Infantry, Captain E. H. Liscum; *Union City, Tenn.*, Company H, Twenty-fifth Infantry, Brevet Major F. H. Torbett, captain; *Humboldt, Tenn.*, Companies B and G, Twenty-fifth Infantry, Brevet Major Jacob Kline, captain; *Pittsburg Landing, Tenn.*, detachment Twenty-fifth Infantry.

DISTRICT OF NASHVILLE.—Brevet Lieutenant Colonel C. G. Freudenberg, captain Forty-fifth Infantry, temporarily, Nashville, Tenn.

Nashville, Tenn., Companies C, E, G, and H, Forty-fifth Infantry, and detachment Twenty-fifth Infantry, Captain G. S. Carpenter; *Chattanooga, Tenn.*, Company A, Forty-fifth Infantry, Brevet Captain Wm. W. Rogers, first lieutenant; *Gallatin, Tenn.*, Company B, Forty-fifth Infantry, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel C. G. Freudenberg, captain; *Columbia, Tenn.*, Company F, Forty-fifth Infantry, Brevet Major C. H. Frederick, first lieutenant.

TWENTY-SIXTH INFANTRY, JANUARY 1, 1869.

Headquarters at Brownsville, Texas.

FIELD AND STAFF.—Colonel Joseph J. Reynolds, brevet major-general, Assistant Commissioner Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands State of Texas; Lieutenant-Colonel Alexander McD. McCook, brevet major-general, commanding Sub-District of the Rio Grande, post of Brownsville, and regiment; Major Levi C. Bootes, brevet brigadier-general, member of general court-martial at Washington, D. C.; First Lieutenant Sumner H. Lincoln, brevet lieutenant-colonel, regimental adjutant, acting assistant adjutant-general, Sub-District of the Rio Grande, and adjutant, post of Brownsville; First Lieutenant James P. Richardson, regimental quartermaster, member of military commission at Austin, Texas.

Captain James F. Grimes (A), brevet lieutenant-colonel, Hillsborough, N. H., on sick leave; First Lieutenant Joseph A. Sladen (A), brevet captain, Washington, D. C., aide-de-camp to General Howard; Captain Thomas M. K. Smith (B), Waco, Texas, commanding company and post; First Lieutenant George W. Smith (B), Waco, Texas, with company; Second Lieutenant John Gotshall (B), Brownsville, Texas, under orders to join company; Captain Nathaniel Prime (C), brevet lieutenant-colonel, Brownsville, Texas, commanding company, detachment Twenty-sixth Infantry, companies C, G and K; First Lieutenant Hamilton C. Peterson (C), Carrizo, Texas, under surgical treatment; Captain James H. Bradford (D), Ringgold Barracks, Texas, commanding company; First Lieutenant Joel T. Kirkman (D), Ringgold Barracks, Texas, with company; Captain Robert P. Wilson (E), brevet major, Ringgold Barracks, Texas, commanding company and post; First Lieutenant Edwin O. Gibson (E), Ringgold Barracks, Texas, with company; Second Lieutenant John Pope (E), Carrizo, Texas, commanding Company H and sub post; Captain Satterlee C. Plummer (F), Fort Greble, Md., on duty in signal department; First Lieutenant George A. Ebbets (F), Ringgold Barracks, Texas, commanding company A,

Twenty-sixth Infantry, acting assistant quartermaster and acting commissary of subsistence and adjutant of post; Second Lieutenant H. B. Chamberlain (F), Point Isabel, Texas, commanding company; Captain John R. Parke (G), brevet lieutenant-colonel, New York City, on duty in office of judge-advocate Department of the East; First Lieutenant Charles F. Roe (G), Point Isabel, Texas, commanding post, acting assistant quartermaster of depot of Brazos Santiago; Second Lieutenant Alured Larke (E), Brownsville, Texas, commanding company; Captain Charles E. Morse (H), Austin, Texas, acting assistant adjutant-general in Bureau Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands, State of Texas; First Lieutenant John P. Williard (H), brevet lieutenant-colonel, Louisville, Kentucky, aide-de-camp to General Thomas; Second Lieutenant Daniel F. Stiles (H), Carrizo, Texas, with company; Captain Welcome A. Crafts (I), lieutenant-colonel, Brownsville, Texas, under arrest; First Lieutenant Gregory Barrett, Jr. (I), Brownsville, Texas, assistant commissary of subsistence Sub-District of the Rio Grande and post; Second Lieutenant E. R. Clarke (I), Edinburg, Texas, commanding company and sub post; Captain Wm. H. McLaughlin (K), Brownsville, Texas, commanding company; First Lieutenant Joseph W. Dickinson (K), Clarksville, Texas, commanding detachment Company K, Twenty-sixth Infantry.

EIGHTH U. S. CAVALRY.

FIELD AND STAFF.—Brevet Brigadier-General I. Irvin Gregg, colonel, commanding regiment and District of Nevada, Churchill Barracks, Nev.; Brevet Brigadier-General Thomas C. Devin, lieutenant-colonel, commanding District of Arizona, Tucson, A. T.; Brevet Brigadier-General A. G. Alexander, major, commanding Sub-District of Verde, A. T. Camp McDowell, A. T.; Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel W. R. Price, major, commanding Sub-District of Upper Colorado, A. T., Camp Mojave, A. T.; Major D. R. Clendenin, commanding Sub-District of Prescott, A. T., Fort Whipple, A. T.; Brevet Major J. H. Mahnken, first lieutenant and adjutant, acting assistant adjutant-general District of Nevada, Churchill Barracks, Nev.; First Lieutenant A. B. Kauffman, acting assistant quartermaster and acting commissary of subsistence, Camp McDermitt, Nev.; First Lieutenant R. S. Oliver, commissary, Angel Island, Cal.

COMPANY A.—Brevet Major Murray Davis, captain, on leave of absence; First Lieutenant Joseph Karge, commanding company, Camp Winfield Scott, Nev.; Second Lieutenant Pendleton Hunter, acting assistant quartermaster and acting commissary of subsistence, Camp Winfield Scott, Nev.

COMPANY B.—Brevet Major H. P. Wade, captain, commanding company, Fort Whipple, A. T.; First Lieutenant O. B. Boyd, en route to Fort Whipple, A. T.; Second Lieutenant Rufus Somerby, with company, Fort Whipple, A. T.

COMPANY C.—Captain William Kelly, en route to Arizona, commanding company; First Lieutenant Wm. McCleare, with company; Second Lieutenant James M. Ropes, with company.

COMPANY D.—Brevet Major A. Bassford, captain, on leave of absence; First Lieutenant T. W. Gibson, commanding company, Camp Halleck, Nev.; Second Lieutenant H. S. Weeks, with company, Camp Halleck, Nev.

COMPANY E.—Captain C. H. Lester, commanding company, Camp Willow Grove, A. T.; First Lieutenant M. M. Wheeler, on leave of absence, Camp Willow Grove, A. T.

COMPANY F.—Brevet Major Dudley Seward, captain, en route to Arizona, commanding company; First Lieutenant R. Carriek, with company; Brevet Captain A. B. Jerome, second lieutenant, with company.

COMPANY G.—Brevet Major R. H. Chapin, captain, commanding company and post, Camp Bidwell, Cal.; First Lieutenant J. Lafferty, commanding detachment of Company G, Fort Crook, Cal.; Brevet Captain A. W. Preston, second lieutenant, with chief signal officer, Washington, D. C.

COMPANY H.—Captain S. P. Smith, commanding company and post, Camp Halleck, Nev.; First Lieutenant A. W. Starr, acting assistant quartermaster and acting commissary of subsistence, Camp Halleck, Nev.

COMPANY I.—Captain J. M. Williams, en route to join company; Brevet Captain E. G. Fechet, first lieutenant, en route to Carlisle Barracks, Pa., General Recruiting Service; Second Lieutenant Edmund Luff, commanding company, Camp McDowell, A. T.

COMPANY K.—Brevet Colonel S. B. M. Young, captain, commanding company and post, Camp Willow Grove, A. T.; First Lieutenant J. D. Stevenson, on leave of absence.

COMPANY L.—Captain Charles Hobart, commanding company, Camp Whipple, A. T.; First Lieutenant A. B. Wells, with company, Camp Whipple, A. T.; Second Lieutenant A. B. Curtiss, with company, Camp Whipple, A. T.

COMPANY M.—Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel J. N. McElroy, captain, commanding company and post, Camp McDermitt, Nev.; First Lieutenant J. T. Foster, in arrest, Camp McDermitt, Nev.; Second Lieutenant W. H. Coombs, with company, Camp McDermitt, Nev.

UNASSIGNED.—Second Lieutenant Ray T. Gordon, Carlisle Barracks, Pa.; Second Lieutenant Wm. A. Dinwiddie, Carlisle Barracks, Pa.

A CORRESPONDENT writes us from Fort Monroe under date of February 4th, that the Fort Monroe Dramatic Association gave their third entertainment, the week before, on which occasion they presented the drama of the "Maid of Croissy" and the "Limerick Boy." The "Maid of Croissy" was played with success. Sergeant Ambrose, of Battery C, Fifth Artillery, personating Sergeant Austerlitz; Mrs. A. C. Van Deusen, Theresa, and Mr. G. W. Bolton of Battery K, Second Artillery, Manette, which, though a female part, he acted and looked "splendidly," our correspondent reports. "We have," he adds, "a good hall here that will seat five hundred people, a good stage and a complete set of scenery and other properties."

ARMY PERSONAL.

SECOND Lieutenant E. H. Weirman, Fourth Artillery, has been placed on duty as acting aide-de-camp to the Brevet Major-General commanding Department of Louisiana.

CAPTAIN D. P. Heap, U. S. Engineers, has been honorably acquitted of the charge of conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman upon which he was arraigned before a Court-martial.

BREVET Colonel Gurden Chapin, major Thirty-second Infantry, has been relieved from duty on Angel Island, California, and authorized to proceed to San Francisco and await further orders.

FIRST Lieutenant John F. Trout, Ninth Infantry, has been ordered to proceed to Angel Island, California, and report to the commanding officer of that post, in arrest, to await the result of his trial.

GENERAL Van Alen and his son, who are cruising in West Indian waters on board the yacht *Henrietta*, have been the recipients of special courtesies from the Royal Bermuda Yacht Club, and the British officers on duty in Bermuda.

SECOND Lieutenant William L. Carpenter, Ninth Infantry, is temporarily assigned to duty at Camp Ruby, Nevada, relieving Captain Timothy Connelly, Ninth Infantry, who will report to the Headquarters Department of California.

SECOND Lieutenant J. A. A. Robinson, Seventeenth U. S. Infantry, has been relieved from duty at Austin, Texas, and ordered to proceed to Hempstead, Texas, and report to the commanding officer of that post for duty with his company.

SECOND Lieutenant W. W. Tyler, Ninth U. S. Cavalry, was, January 19th, relieved from further duty at Fort Duncan, Texas, and ordered to at once proceed to Fort Clark, Texas, and report to the commanding officer of that post, for duty with his company.

LEAVE of absence for twenty days, with leave to go beyond the limits of his command, and with recommendation to the Adjutant-General of the Army for an extension of ten days, has been granted First Lieutenant Charles A. Vernou, Fourth U. S. Cavalry.

LEAVE of absence for twenty days, with authority to go beyond the limits of the Fifth Military District, was, January 19th, granted First Lieutenant A. H. M. Taylor, Seventeenth U. S. Infantry, with a recommendation to the War Department for an extension of thirty days.

BREVET Lieutenant-Colonel Myles W. Keogh, captain Seventh U. S. Cavalry, has been relieved from duty as judge-advocate of the General Court-martial recently convened at Fort Harker, Kansas, and First Lieutenant George F. Price, Fifth U. S. Cavalry, detailed in his place.

SUBJECT to the approval of the Secretary of War, Brevet Major I. D. DeRussy, captain First Infantry, and Captain George Baldey, Thirty-ninth Infantry, are appointed aides-de-camp to Brevet Major-General R. C. Buchanan, commanding the Department of Louisiana, to date from Jan. 23d.

FIRST Lieutenant Byron F. Strong, Forty-first U. S. Infantry, having, by promotion, been assigned to Company G, vice Funk, resigned, has been ordered by General Canby to proceed to the station of his company, Fort Stockton, Texas, and report to the commanding officer of that post for duty.

LEAVE of absence for twenty days, on surgeon's certificate of disability, with permission to go beyond the limits of his command, and with recommendation to the adjutant-general of the Army for an extension of thirty days, has been granted Brevet Brigadier-General Julius Hayden, lieutenant-colonel Fifteenth U. S. Infantry.

THE following-named officers are announced as aides-de-camp to Brevet Major-General Alvan C. Gillem, commanding Fourth Military District, (Department of Mississippi),—subject to the approval of the War Department: Brevet Major S. G. Green, captain Twenty-fourth Infantry; Brevet Major John Tyler, first lieutenant Forty-third Infantry.

BREVET Lieutenant-Colonel C. M. Terrill, paymaster U. S. A., has been relieved from duty as a member of the general court-martial, convened by Special Orders No. 8, paragraph 8, current series, from Headquarters Fifth Military District, and Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel J. C. DeGress, captain Ninth U. S. Cavalry, is appointed a member of the same.

CAPTAIN George Baldey, Thirty-ninth Infantry, having been appointed aide-de-camp to Brevet Major-General Robert C. Buchanan, U. S. Army, has been relieved from duty as acting assistant adjutant-general District of Louisiana. Captain Luke O'Reilly, Thirty-ninth Infantry, has been assigned to duty as acting assistant adjutant-general District of Louisiana.

THE following officers reported at Headquarters Department of the Missouri, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, week ending January 30, 1869: Madison Mills, brevet brigadier-general and surgeon, returning from special duty; J. F. Rodgers, captain and military storekeeper, Quartermaster's Department, special duty; R. H. McKay, acting assistant surgeon, Medical Department, reporting for duty.

THE funeral of Second Lieutenant Sylvester Soper, Fortieth Infantry, took place in San Francisco, January 6th, one-half the company of infantry on Angel Island forming the military escort on the occasion, under the command of Second Lieutenant W. L. Carpenter, Ninth Infantry. Lieutenant Soper was a captain in the volunteer force during the war, and was appointed Second Lieutenant in the Fortieth Infantry January 22, 1867.

A GENERAL Court-martial is ordered to convene at Austin, Texas, January 28th. Detail for the Court: Brevet Colonel William H. Walcott, U. S. A., (retired); Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Samuel M. Schwenk, captain

Forty-first U. S. Infantry; Captain Robert B. Wade, Seventeenth U. S. Infantry; Captain Charles E. Morse, Twenty-sixth U. S. Infantry; First Lieutenant Clarence E. Nesmith, regimental commissary of subsistence, Sixth U. S. Cavalry; First Lieutenant Charles A. Vernou, Fourth U. S. Cavalry; Second Lieutenant John M. Walton, Fourth U. S. Cavalry; First Lieutenant James P. Richardson, Twenty-sixth U. S. Infantry, judge-advocate.

THE following officers were registered at Headquarters Department of Louisiana for the week ending January 30, 1869: D. Lynch, Jr., second lieutenant Fourth Cavalry; G. Lawson, captain Thirty-ninth Infantry, brevet lieutenant-colonel; G. Magnitzky, second lieutenant Thirty-ninth Infantry, brevet captain; J. M. Lee, first lieutenant and adjutant Thirty-ninth Infantry; W. W. Webb, captain Fourth Cavalry, brevet major; J. W. Scully, captain and assistant quartermaster, brevet colonel.

CAPTAIN Kinney, whose recent suicide at Sitka has been already reported, was First Lieutenant and Brevet-Captain Samuel H. Kinney, of the Second regiment Artillery. He was a cadet at the U. S. Military Academy from July 1, 1860, to June 13, 1864, when he was graduated and promoted in the Army to second lieutenant Second Artillery. He served, during the rebellion, in front of Petersburg from July, 1864, to May, 1865; and in the garrison at Fort McHenry, Baltimore, in July and August. He was brevetted first lieutenant April 9, 1865, for gallant and meritorious service in action at Appomattox court house, and captain April 9, 1865, for gallant and meritorious services, and was appointed first lieutenant Second Artillery October 6, 1865. From October to December, 1865, he was on frontier duty at San Diego, California, and in garrison at San Francisco harbor December, 1865. We have not yet received the particulars of his sad death.

ON the occasion of the marriage of Brevet Brigadier-General Comstock, of General Grant's staff, to Miss Blair, there were present General Grant and family, Senator Patterson and Mrs. Patterson, and others of President Johnson's household; Secretary Seward, and a large number of Senators and Representatives; Surgeon-General Barnes, Paymaster-General Brice, Generals Stone-man, Humphreys, Porter, Parker, and a host more of the Army; Admirals S. P. Lee and Theodoros Bailey; Commodore B. F. Sands, (National Observatory), and hundreds of other notables. The bride was attired in a white satin long train, with no ornaments but a garland of orange flowers and long white tulle veil. The groom was in full uniform, and at the conclusion of the ceremony the bridal party withdrew to the residence of Montgomery Blair, the bride's father, on Pennsylvania avenue, near Seventeenth street, where supper was prepared for all, and the festivities were kept up until a late hour.

DUNBAR'S SYSTEM OF SHOEING, ETC.

ON the 19th of January, 1869, the House of Representatives passed the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Secretary of War be directed to inform the House by what authority Mr. Alexander Dunbar, a citizen of Canada, is employed to instruct the horse-doctors of the United States Army in his so-called secret for the treatment of horses' feet, and to travel over the country delivering lectures on the same; what amount is paid him per month for his services; and if it be true that, in addition to his monthly salary, he is to get twenty thousand dollars; also, the number of officers of the United States Army, farmers, and other attendants, detailed to his service, what the nature of their duties is, and the amount paid them per month; also, the number of buildings that have been rented for the use of Mr. Dunbar, and at what cost.

In answer to this resolution, General Schofield has transmitted to Congress a letter from General Meigs, in which the attention of the forgetful Congressmen is called to the following joint resolution, approved July 28, 1866:

Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of War be authorized and directed to contract, on such terms as, in his discretion, he may think fair and reasonable, with Dr. Alexander Dunbar, for the use by the government of the alleged discovery of the said Dunbar of a mode of treatment of the diseases of the horse's foot, and for his services for one year, in instructing the farriers of the Army in such treatment; the amount agreed upon to be paid out of the fund already appropriated for the purchase of horses or general support of the Army.

Under this resolution four several propositions were submitted by Mr. Dunbar to the War Department, viz.:

1. To instruct a certain number of men (one for each division of the Army) thoroughly in his system for the consideration of \$100,000, or \$100, per head for each animal belonging to the military service, which he seems to have estimated at a number equivalent to 100,000.
2. To give his services, exclusively, for one year, instructing as many persons as may be desired, for the consideration of \$100,000, one-half to be paid in advance.
3. To instruct all persons selected by the government for instruction, for one year, in consideration of the payment to him of \$75,000, two-thirds to be paid in advance.
4. To establish an institution in New York or Washington, under his personal supervision and conducted at his own cost, instructing all persons sent by the government, for one year, for the consideration of \$100,000, with the privilege reserved of diffusing his method through the country at large on such terms as he may elect.

None of these propositions were accepted, but finally on the 13th of July, 1868, the Secretary of War offered Mr. Dunbar \$25,000 as follows: \$1,000 in hand at the time his services commenced, \$300 each month thereafter, and the remainder of the \$25,000 at the end of the year. He to give his entire time and labor to the government during the year, and to visit such places in the United States and Territories, and to instruct such persons, as the Secretary of War might direct. His necessary travelling expenses to be paid by the government. This proposition was accepted and subsequently modified so as to make the monthly payments \$500 instead of \$300, without increasing the total sum, and allowing

mileage at the rate allowed officers travelling under orders. General Meigs adds that Dr. Dunbar is, as the law requires, employed to instruct the farriers of the Army. But it has been thought proper to take measures to have his lessons attended by the veterinary surgeons and by cavalry, artillery, and other officers having charge of public animals, as far as practicable, so as to diffuse, as widely as possible, the information for which it is necessary to expend so much public money.

As it was thought that much costly time would be lost were Dr. Dunbar sent alone from post to post to report to officers, many of them, it was to be apprehended, likely to be prepared to receive his pretensions with ridicule; and as he was employed under the orders of Congress; to save time, an officer of intelligence, attached to the cavalry, was directed to take charge of the whole subject and accompany him from post to post. Only one farrier is detailed to this special service—a man of skill in his profession and trained in Dr. Dunbar's mode of treatment. This farrier accompanies him and is paid \$4.00 per day for his services, and has also his travelling expenses. His duties are to trim the feet of the horse and apply the shoe under Dr. Dunbar's instructions. No other persons are detailed to accompany him. At each post visited under the general instructions, it is the duty of the officers and others named therein to attend the lectures.

The principle of shoeing and treatment of the hoof upon Mr. Dunbar's system, is thus described in a report rendered by Brevet Captain A. B. Taylor, acting assistant quartermaster, first lieutenant Fifth Cavalry:

Mr. Dunbar's system is very simple and perfectly practicable, but directly contrary to the teachings of all writers upon the horse.

Farriers in not properly paring the hoof caused contraction, corns, pumiced feet, etc.

In treating contracted feet, cut away the bars, lower and open the heel, pare down the frog, cut out the cleft of the frog; the commissures should be well cut out. In cutting out the heel pare the horny substance which grows down upon it and part of frog contiguous to heel, until by pressing it with the thumb and finger it feels soft; notice this particularly, for it is these pegs that prevent the heel and frog from expanding. In order to expand the hoof, fit the shoe wider than the hoof so that you can see through the nail holes from the quarters to heel; set the shoe in its proper place by nailing two-thirds of the way between the quarter and toe on one side; push the shoe over so that one side is even with the wall of the hoof, drive the nails without clinching; this enables you to get the holes as you want them; draw the nails; commence and drive the nails on the other side without driving home, but clinch them; you will find that on the side opposite the shoe projects beyond the wall; commence driving the nails, (being careful that the point enters the holes already made in the hoof), clinching them, but not driving home; commence now and drive all the nails, first on one side and then on the other, so that all the nails can be driven as nearly at the same time as possible. By this mode of nailing, the foot can be expanded from one eighth to three-eighths of an inch.

When the hoof is contracted on one side more than the other, cut out the heel and bars more on that side, and then the wall from quarter to heel and from coronet down; this weakens these parts, and as the foot expands it gradually resumes its natural shape.

The foot should be well poulticed with flaxseed meal, which keeps the hoof moist, giving the contracted parts power to expand. In poulticing stuff the poultice well around the heel and coronet; keep the poultice moist and allow it to remain on until the parts have expanded to their natural size and shape.

In paring, if blood is drawn it does no harm; so that farriers in following out this system need have no fear of injuring the foot, for, as before stated, weakening the contracted parts takes away the cause and gives the necessary room for expansion. Always cut the bar well out, for it is the bar which crowds against the frog, preventing it from expanding, and if the frog is not allowed to expand it contracts the space that the coffin-bone occupies in the foot, and at the same time contracts the heel. When the hoof is not pared very deeply it can be kept moist by stuffing with cow manure, and the coronet kept moist by putting a wet swab around the pastern joint, but it is always best to poultice if only for a few days.

All horses whose hoofs are perfectly natural, it is advisable always to keep a wet swab around their pasterns while in the stable.

In treating corns, pare the hoof out, cut away the bars, pare the corn down evenly, adjust the commissures, lower the heel, and let there be no pressure upon the corn; if the corn is extensive, in shoeing it will sometimes require a bar shoe.

In taking away all pressure upon the affected parts it allows that part to grow down, thus throwing out the diseased portion.

In fitting the shoe drive the nails from the quarter total on each side, which takes all weight from the affected part; keep the feet well stuffed or poulticed.*

In treating a pumiced or flat foot, shorten the toe as much as possible, pare the foot carefully without taking too much away from the base or forward part of the hoof, pare the frog, cut away the bars, lower and open the heel and adjust the commissures, groove the wall from coronet on one side to the other about two inches wide, extending one inch from coronet down, the line of groove forming a semicircle; make five or six small grooves

* Thrush is treated in the same manner as contraction. Pare out the thrush and keep the foot clean and well poulticed.

from coronet down to the semicircular groove already made, coronet being more or less contracted in pumiced feet; this plan weakens that portion of hoof, and when the poultice is applied will allow it to expand more readily. Fit the shoe with small corks on the heel, for the heel being lowered and opened, the strain would be too sudden on the tendons if a flat shoe were put on, but at each shoeing, as the hoof expands and resumes its natural shape, the corks can be gradually lowered until the shoe is perfectly flat; keep the foot well poulticed, particularly the coronet and heels.

In a foundered horse, shorten the toe, lower the heels, cut the bars away, pare the frog, adjust the commissures, cutting down deeply; cut a groove from toe to opening of heel on each side, so that when the poultice is applied the inflammation can be more readily drawn out; it is also well to prick the hoof to the quick around the top of coronet, especially if the horse is badly foundered; keep the foot well poulticed at heel, sole, and coronet, until all inflammation is gone; shoe as usual, being careful not to drive the nails too close to part of toe that is weakened.

For sand crack, cut away the bars, adjust the commissures, pare the sole and frog, open and lower the heel, make a groove half-inch wide through the whole length of crack and deep enough to draw blood, cut out the toe, so that when the shoe is placed on the hoof the end and sides of crack are free from pressure. Fit the shoe so as to expand the hoof by nailing, taking care to keep the crack expanded with a prier while the nails are being driven, after which remove the prier. Keep the foot well poulticed until the new horn commences to grow out, then fill the crack with tar or pitch, but keep the foot as moist as possible all the time, and the longer the poultice remains on the better the effect. Knuckling and knee-sprung, lower the heel as much as possible, shorten the toe, cut away the bars, and treat the same as for contraction.

Thirty-eight private horses have been treated on this system at Washington. Of these ten are reported perfectly cured, seventeen as improving or greatly improved, ten under treatment and one not reported upon.

THE changes in the stations of troops serving in the Fifth Military District, reported last week, were made for the purpose of carrying out an order by which the State of Texas is divided into Districts (posts), to each of which a commander is assigned with a sufficient military force to secure the execution of his orders. The Post Commanders are invested, also, with the control of the power of counties and the police of cities, and are clothed with the authority of County Justices and City Police Magistrates, being governed in the discharge of their duties by the laws of Texas, so far as they do not conflict with the laws of the United States or the regulations established under those laws. The Post Commanders are authorized to appoint from their command Military Commissioners, not to exceed one in each county, who shall exercise their authority at points too remote for their own immediate action. The Post Commanders and Military Commissioners are directed to act, so far as possible, through the civil authorities, giving them all needful assistance; only interfering to secure rightful protection to person and property. The laws of Texas are comprehensive and explicit in relation to the prevention of crime and the arrest of criminals. They only need to be enforced to secure the most complete security, and it is to be hoped the military supervision which has been assumed will stimulate the civil authorities to a more active and impartial discharge of their sworn duty. A movement is already on foot to divide this great State of Texas into two smaller States, and there is much probability that this will be done at no distant day. It would be fortunate if the boundary line could be drawn between the two States so as to throw the peaceful, law-abiding citizens of Texas on one side and the desperadoes and malcontents on the other.

M. O., L. L., U. S.

At a stated meeting of Commandery No. 1, State of New York, held at Delmonico's, corner of Fifth Avenue and Fourteenth street, on Wednesday evening, Feb. 3d, at 8 o'clock, the following candidates for membership were elected: For the first class—Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Henry Clay Wood, major and acting adjutant-general U. S. Army, Detroit, Michigan; Second Lieutenant Loyall Farragut, Twenty-first U. S. Infantry, Norfolk, Va.; Brevet Brigadier-General William Heine, late colonel One Hundred and Third New York Volunteers, U. S. Legion, Paris, France; Captain Thomas Tileston, late One Hundred and Thirty-first New York Volunteers, New York City.

At a stated meeting of Commandery No. 1, of the State of Pennsylvania, M. O., L. L., U. S., held Feb. 3d, the following-named gentlemen, candidates for membership, were balloted for and duly elected companions of the Order: Of the first class—Commodore Augustus H. Kilty, U. S. Navy; Ensign William H. Brice, U. S. Navy; Major and Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel William H. Johnston, Paymaster U. S. Army; Captain Francis H. Wilson, Third U. S. Cavalry; First Lieutenant Alexander Sutorius, Third U. S. Cavalry; Second Lieutenant Thomas Dunn, Fifteenth U. S. Infantry; Major Joseph F. Tobias, late aide-de-camp of Volunteers, Third Army Corps; First Lieutenant V. Stamp, late First U. S. Veteran Volunteers, acting engineer officer First Army Corps—Veterans.

SECOND Lieutenant George W. Roby, First Infantry, has been detailed on special duty at headquarters District of Louisiana.

THE NAVY.

THE Editor would be pleased to receive for this Department of the JOURNAL all facts of interest to the Navy, especially such as relate to the movements of officers or vessels.

VARIOUS NAVAL MATTERS.

THE Senate Naval Committee has reported adversely on the petition of Lieutenant-Commander John A. Quackenbush to be restored to the active list of the Navy.

JOHN C. Braine has not yet been released under the President's Amnesty Proclamation, Attorney-General Evarts being in doubt whether that proclamation covers his case.

THE President has nominated Andrew A. Harwood to be a Rear-Admiral in the Navy on the retired list; Past Assistant Paymaster Leonard A. Frailey, and Assistant Paymaster J. P. Loomis, to be Paymasters in the Navy. David Taylor to be Paymaster vice Pomeroy, deceased; Frank Bridgeman to be Paymaster vice Lesley, retired.

THE U. S. steamer *Tallapoosa*, Ensign D. G. McRitchie commanding, left Aspinwall, January 28th, for New York, via Cape Haytien. She has on board some seventy sailors and marines, whose times are up, sent home from the Pacific States. During the night of January 29d, a disturbance occurred ashore at Aspinwall, between some of the crew of the *Tallapoosa*, who were on liberty, and the negroes on shore, during which, Barnard Baumer, an ordinary seaman, was killed. Two or three others were slightly bruised.

THE reduction in the force at the Brooklyn Navy Yard still continues. The engineers' department will be reduced over one hundred men. The contractors' about the same number; the equipment will discharge a number of sailmakers, riggers and laborers. The ordnance department will also be reduced twenty-five per cent. The completion of the *Franklin*, *Narragansett* and *Kenosha* necessitates this. The steamer *Memphis* is in dock undergoing repairs and repainting her bottom. The *Kenosha* has yet to ship her rudder; also take in about 350 tons of coal and obtain some other equipments, when she will be ready for sea. The first of March is about the time assigned for her departure.

DURING the two years term of service of the U. S. Revenue steamer *Widener* which expired on the 20th ult., she has cruised a distance of 23,735 miles; boarded and examined 497 vessels; rendered valuable assistance to eight shipwrecked or distressed vessels; and detected several violations and evasions of the revenue laws. The list of officers is as follows, viz.: Captain, Edward A. Freeman; First Lieutenant, George Walden; Third Lieutenant, Thomas H. Ridgate; Third Lieutenant, W. C. Coulson; Chief Engineer, Charles H. Stone; First Assistant Engineer, George Drexler; Second Assistant Engineer, F. D. Neale; Boatswain, Charles Hilyard; Gunner, Gustav Ollman; Carpenter, B. D. Stayner.

THE following United States vessels of war were in the harbor of Aspinwall during the last week in January: *Penobscot*, *Yantic*, *Nipsic*, *Tallapoosa*. The *Tuscarora*, from Callao, arrived at Panama on the 21st inst. The *Penobscot* sailed from Aspinwall on the 27th for Cuba. The *Tallapoosa* was ready to sail for the States. On the evening of the 23d inst., a serious row occurred between some sailors from the United States ship *Tallapoosa* and a number of Jamaica negroes at Aspinwall. The *Tallapoosa* was lying alongside of the Railroad Company's wharf taking in coal, and after work some fifteen or twenty of the men went on shore on liberty and got drunk and disorderly, when an attack was soon after made upon them by about two hundred Jamaica negroes, who made a free use of stones and bottles, and who succeeded in killing one of the sailors by pounding his skull in with a champagne bottle. The murdered man had nothing whatever to do with the row, and was perfectly sober and endeavoring to get on board the vessel, when he was attacked and brutally killed.

THE Secretary of the Navy is in receipt of a dispatch bearing date December 1st, from Rear-Admiral S. C. Rowan, commanding the U. S. Asiatic Squadron, giving the distribution of the vessels in his squadron during the month of November, viz.: the U. S. flagship *Piscataqua*, first rate, Captain Daniel Ammen, left Nagasaki, Japan, on November 3d, arriving at Shanghai, China, on the 6th, where she was stationed at the date of his report. The *Idaho*, Lieutenant Edward Hooker, was at Nagasaki, where she was stationed as a store and hospital ship. The *Onida*, Commander J. B. Creighton, was stationed at Yokohama, and the *Monocacy*, Commander S. P. Carter, at Hiogo. The *Iroquois*, Commander Earl English, was at Shanghai, where she arrived on November 22d, from Hakodadi. The *Ashuelot*, Commander R. L. Law, left Nagasaki on the 3d of November, arriving at Shanghai where she still remained. The *Arctostook*, Lieutenant, Commander R. F. Bradford, was cruising on her station, which comprised the ports of Amoy and Foo Chow, the intermediate coast, and the island of Formosa. The *Maumee*, Lieutenant-Commander William B. Cushing, left Nagasaki on November 3d, for Hiogo. The *Unadilla*, Lieutenant-Commander A. R. Yates, was on her old station, headquarters at Hong Kong.

OUR Minister in Japan has an elephant on his hands in the shape of the iron-clad ram *Stonewall*. Repeated efforts have been made by both parties to get possession of this vessel, by paying up what was due on her. Now that, by the Mikado's proclamation, peace reigns, the transfer cannot be much longer delayed. The money is all ready, but the American Minister still refuses to turn her over. He says he awaits instructions from home. Captain Brown has telegraphed from San Francisco that he should immediately deliver the ram *Stonewall* to the Japanese government, which has agreed to pay all her expenses since she has been in the possession of the United States.

FOREIGN NAVAL MATTERS.

A NEW hydraulic steering apparatus, the invention of Captain Inglefield, R. N., is being fitted to the *Achilles*.

LIEUTENANT A. H. Gilmore, British Navy, is bringing into use an ingenious expanding plug for stopping shot holes in vessels.

LIEUTENANT Thomas Ramsbotham, of the British Navy, has been sentenced by naval court-martial to lose two years' rank and to be severely reprimanded, for having so neglected his duty as officer of the watch, as to allow her Majesty's ship *Crocodile* to come into collision with a merchant bark named the *John Dwyer*, whereby the bark was sunk and four of her crew were drowned.

AN English enquirer, Mr. D. M. Henderson, has been appointed Chief Coast Lights Engineer for China under the Imperial Maritime Customs Service of that country, and of which Mr. Robert Hart is the chief. The coast of China is at present nearly destitute of lighthouses, but in a few years this state of things will be altered, as it is now proposed to erect over twenty sea lights; and as a beginning, some half-dozen are to be placed in the neighborhood of Shanghai, now a most important place.

ACCORDING to the last French Blue Book, the French fleet on December 31, 1868, consisted of four hundred and thirty vessels, viz., three hundred and thirty-one steam vessels, with 76,135 horse-power, and ninety-nine sailing vessels. There are launched, but still unfinished, seven steam vessels of 3,710 horse-power, and there are on the stocks thirty-one steam vessels of 13,405 horse-power, and one sailing transport. This fleet is subdivided into two fleets, one called the new fleet, the other formed of vessels deemed unsuitable to form part of the new fleet. The new fleet, which alone forms the real strength of the Imperial Navy, contains three hundred and fourteen steam vessels and seventy sailing vessels, subdivided into, first, an armored fleet of fifty vessels of various classes; second, the wooden fighting fleet of ninety screw vessels; third, the flotilla of ninety steam vessels; fourth, the transport fleet of seventy-five vessels; lastly, two training ships, one for gunners, one for naval officers. The new fleet has ten vessels more than it had last year, viz., four iron-plated corvettes, three wooden corvettes, dispatch-boats or gunboats, one iron-plated coast guard vessel, two training ships. It has lost twelve vessels during the year, viz., two rapid wooden frigates; ten vessels of the steam flotilla. Despite this balance of loss of vessels, the military value of the ten new vessels is greater than that of the twelve old vessels. The old fleet tends rapidly to disappear, it contained seventy-three vessels in 1867, and only forty-six in 1868; twenty-two new or transformed vessels will be added to the new fleet in 1868; fifteen new vessels, viz., four new iron-clad corvettes, one new floating battery, two new dispatch boats, eight new gunboats; seven transformed vessels, viz., two steam transports, made of fleet frigates, three steam transports, made of mixed frigates, two training vessels. The machinery put into the cannon-foundries at Ruelle and Nevers is constantly increased. These two establishments are daily turning out heavy guns. "We are constantly studying the means of improving naval artillery. It now seems these studies should more especially be directed to a profound modification of the manufacture of powder."

THE London Times says: "Captain Cowper P. Coles has lately made experiments at Portsmouth dockyard with regard to the bottoms of iron ships and the disposition of their guns and armor. His success has exceeded his anticipations. In the Warrior dock at Portsmouth there has been placed an iron-built mortar vessel, now used as a movable coal depot, on the bottom of which for several years past different kinds of compositions for the preservation of the bottoms of iron ships and for the prevention of their fouling have been tested and periodically reported upon by the shipwright department of the dockyard for the information of the Admiralty. On the bottom of this vessel are two patches of cement composition, applied on the plan proposed by Captain Coles, one of which was put on four and the other three years since. Speaking of these first as preservative cements only, their efficiency in that respect has been satisfactorily proved by having portions of them cut away from the vessel's bottom with a chisel, when the iron plates underneath were found in perfect preservation, and as free from outer deterioration of any kind as on the day the cement was first laid over them. "The anti-fouling experiment has been equally successful. In November, 1867, the last occasion on which the vessel was in dock, a patch of the cement was laid on the bottom plating under the bilge, and, before drying, coated with a copper facing in the form of dust or filings. This patch now, after the vessel has been quite fourteen months in the water, is found to be quite clean and free from any deposit whatever, fully answering, in deed, all the requirements that would be expected from a sheet of copper fixed in any similar position. Captain Coles also claims that the cement applied to the bottom of an iron ship would strengthen it very materially, as well as preserve it from the action of the sea water. This would, no doubt, be the case, but weight given by any increased thickness of the cement applied would then have to be taken into consideration, a part of the subject, however, which has, no doubt, been considered."

LETTERS IN THE NEW YORK POST-OFFICE.

THE following is a list of letters remaining in the New York Post-office on the dates given. These letters are retained in the New York Office for one month from date, after which they are sent to the Dead-Letter Office, Washington.

ARMY.

FEBRUARY 25th.

Barton, S. S., General U. S. A.	Hutchinson, James, Captain.
Church, Geo. E., Colonel.	Isaac, Charles L., Major.
Dean, J., Captain.	Moore, S. L., Captain.
Hastings, James, Major.	McCulloch, Jos. G., Captain.
Hoffman, J., Colonel.	Shearman, T. J., Colonel.

NAVY GAZETTE.

REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

ORDERED.

FEBRUARY 3.—Boatswain John A. Briscoe, to duty on board the receiving ship *Vermont*.

DETACHED.

JANUARY 30.—Captain W. A. Parker, from command of the receiving ship *Independence*, and placed on waiting orders.
FEBRUARY 1.—Lieutenant-Commander G. H. Perkins, from duty on board the *Lackawanna*, and placed on waiting orders.
FEBRUARY 2.—Boatswain E. B. Bell, from duty on board the *Franklin*, and placed on waiting orders.
Boatswain John A. Selmer, from duty on board the receiving ship *Vermont*, and ordered to the flag-ship *Franklin*.
FEBRUARY 4.—Chief Engineer E. S. De Luce, from duty connected with the construction of the boilers of the *Saranac*, and placed on waiting orders.

RESIGNED.

FEBRUARY 3.—Midshipmen T. C. Denny and W. A. Siter.
FEBRUARY 4.—Lieutenant-Commander John S. Barnes.

VOLUNTEER NAVAL SERVICE.

DETACHED.

JANUARY 30.—Acting Master E. A. Roderick, from duty on board the *Lackawanna*, and granted leave for discharge.
FEBRUARY 2.—Acting Passed Assistant Surgeon J. W. Sherfy, from duty connected with iron-clads at New Orleans, La., and granted leave for discharge.

MUSTERED OUT.

FEBRUARY 1.—Acting Master H. W. Hand.
FEBRUARY 2.—Acting Third Assistant Engineer C. J. Morgan.

HONORABLY DISCHARGED.

The following-named Volunteer Naval officer has been honorably discharged from the service of the United States since last report:

FEBRUARY 4.—Acting Third Assistant Engineer Leopold Callaway.

LIST OF DEATHS.

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Chief of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery for the week ending February 6, 1869:

Dennis Whealan, sergeant marine corps, January 18th, U. S. steamer *Cyane*, at Panama.
Thomas Norton, coal-heaver, December 31, 1868, *Maro Island*, California.
Julian Martinetti, ordinary seaman, January 7th, *Maro Island*, California.
Barnard Baumer, ordinary seaman, January 22d, U. S. steamer *Tallapoosa*, at Aspinwall, N. G.

THE PHILADELPHIA NAVY-YARD.

MESSRS. William D. Kelly, A. F. Stevens and T. W. Ferry, the committee appointed by Congress to investigate the alleged frauds in the purchase of tools and machinery for the Philadelphia Navy-yard, report that they proceeded to Philadelphia under instructions of the House of Representatives, to inquire into the regularity and legality of the purchase of planing and riveting machines, Cameron pumps, and tools, and machinery generally, by Theodore Zeller, chief engineer of the Navy-yard at Philadelphia. They made a personal examination of the tools, riveting machine, and pumps in question, together with the buildings in which they were placed, or intended to be placed. They also examined the following-named persons as witnesses: Emil Goldstein, draughtsman of the department of steam engineering; John Rowbotham, master machinist; James P. Muun, clerk of the department of steam engineering; George R. Johnson, chief engineer United States Navy, on duty as inspector of material, or inspecting engineer; David Hennessey, late quartermaster of the machine shop; William A. Palmer, present quartermaster of the machine shop; Edward Ball, Charles Henry, John Dorsey, and Joseph E. Conner, machinists employed in the yard who had had experience in the use of the tools; J. Shields Wilson and John Birkbeck, superintendents of large establishments for the manufacture of steam engines, boilers, etc.; William H. Bement of the Industrial Works, Philadelphia; Theodore Zeller, chief engineer of the yard; John Koop, his assistant engineer, and William W. Wood and Alexander Henderson, chief engineers in the Navy, who, at the suggestion of Mr. Isherwood, engineer-in-chief United States Navy, were detailed for that purpose. The committee also examined John Roach, of the Etna Iron Works, who craved a hearing. They also communicated with William Sellers & Co., tool manufacturers, from whom they received such papers and information as they required.

The purchases which led to this investigation, and upon which the inquiry is based, were twenty-one tools purchased of John Roach & Sons of the Etna Iron Works, New York, at a cost of \$42,425. The condition of the tools had attracted the attention of citizens of Philadelphia in no wise connected with the manufacture of tools or machinery, or the furnishing of materials therefor, but who had throughout the war taken a patriotic interest in the success of our navy and the reputation of Philadelphia in connection therewith, and who felt themselves impelled by conscientious motives to bring the matter to the attention of the Navy Department. A Board of Engineers had been designated to investigate the matter, and had reported an approval of the purchase as the result of their investigation; whereupon an appeal was made by the citizens to their representatives for a further investigation of the matter. In response to that appeal the House adopted the resolution under which the Committee is acting.

The testimony elicited shows that the tools and machinery complained of were either of an inferior class, or being first-class, were partially worn out by use previous to purchase for the navy-yards. The examination of the tools and the testimony satisfied the Committee that the purchase of these second-hand tools was most injudicious. In the judgment of the Committee, the space for several of them would be more valuable to the proprietor of a well-appointed machine-shop, or a person fitting up a machine shop for active competition in the neighborhood of well-appointed shops, than the tools themselves.

The principal offenders were Messrs. Roach & Co., who furnished a large portion of the bad tools and machinery. It proves that much of the testimony which satisfied the Board of Engineers which made the previous investigation, was fraudulent. The general conclusion of the Committee is, that "the transaction with John Roach & Co. is justly open to criticism. It has not been the usage of the Navy Department to permit the purchase of second-hand tools. The purchase of a particular tool to meet an exigency, or of a tool not made by the trade at large or for general sale, that has been used, has sometimes taken place; but each instance has been justified, so far as the Committee have been able to ascertain, by its special circumstances, and none of them furnish a precedent for this wholesale purchase of the tools of a firm which was about to change its premises, and probably found it more profitable to sell old stock than to transfer it to its new premises. Messrs. Roach & Son were about to close the Etna Iron Works, having purchased the Morgan Works.

THE CESSION OF GIBRALTAR.

THE *Herald's* London correspondent reports that the cession of Gibraltar to Spain is fast becoming the question of the day. Admirals, generals and other correspondents are filling the papers with letters about it. The editors, in labored leaders, are discussing it, *pro* and *con*. More significant than all else, the question has been debated in court circles and apparently decided in the affirmative.

Mr. Arthur Helps, the well known author, is also a well known courtier. He is the clerk of the Privy Council and the literary assistant of the Queen. Now, Mr. Helps has just published a very capital book called "Real-mah," in which he endeavors to resuscitate the lost history of the people buried under the lakes, and especially to trace the career and describe the virtues of a certain imaginary king, who is, of course, depicted as a sort of Queen Victoria in trousers. The book wanders about, without any apparent moral, until just at its close, when we find this imaginary sovereign advising his people to cede just such a fortress as Gibraltar to just such a people as the Spanish. The whole book leads up to this one point; and it is generally regarded and accepted as a hint that the Queen herself and those who surround her are personally favorable to the cession of Gibraltar. I have reason to know that this inference is quite correct.

The *Times* naturally takes a part in this debate; but it is a very curious and characteristic part. Instead of stating any opinion or advocating any view, the *Times* publishes all opinions and states the views of all sides, and then pleads for delay, as if feeling about for some firm ground to stand upon.

Let us briefly review the whole question. Gibraltar, an English fortress, captured from Spain in war and once believed to be impregnable, lies off the Spanish coast and once guarded the entrance to the port of Cadiz. It was formerly useful to England as a coaling station, as a depot for supplies in case of war and as a harbor for vessels. Time, the invention of the American iron-clads and the manufacture of immense rifled cannon have changed all this. Gibraltar is no longer impregnable. An American or French iron-clad fleet could lay off at a safe distance and batter down all its defenses. It no longer commands the port of Cadiz; for fast war steamers could run past it without receiving a shot. It no longer offers a safe harbor for vessels, since the roadstead is open to the winds and sea waves and exposed to the presence of the enemy's ships, armed with long-range guns. Consequently, in case of war, Gibraltar would be of no use to England as a coaling station, a depot, a harbor, or a fortress. One large iron-clad, like the *Dunderberg*, anchored opposite to it would render it practically useless.

The statement prominently put forward in the English papers that the presence of English troops and the British flag at Gibraltar wounds the susceptibilities of the Spanish people, is all pretence. The real grievance is that the English make Gibraltar a nest of smugglers, who openly violate Spanish laws, diminish the Spanish revenue, and bring the Spanish government into contempt, and that whenever Spain attempts to pursue and punish one of these smugglers Great Britain interferes, blusters and bullies Spain, and threatens to bombard Cadiz. This is the real wound to Spanish susceptibilities. I have been upon the spot, talked with the Spanish officials and citizens along the coast, and investigated the alleged cause of complaint, and I know that if England would suppress the smuggling at Gibraltar and the smugglers who come from Gibraltar, no Spaniard would care a pin about the presence of British troops or the display of the British flag—which, in fact very few of them can ever see. But it suits the purpose of certain English diplomatists to shut the eyes of the public to these facts and to represent that the whole Spanish nation is crying for Gibraltar, is sulking because Gibraltar is not given up, and is hurt in its pride because Gibraltar is in foreign hands. Therefore, they say, Gibraltar ought to be returned Spain; but for a consideration, mind, for a consideration. This consideration is the turning point of the whole affair.

The suggestion of the cession of Gibraltar was first broached at the time when Queen Isabella was de-throned, and then it was to be the price paid for the elevation of Prince Alfred of England to the Spanish throne. The Spaniards did not ask it. The English themselves suggested it. That bargain fell to the ground for want of a customer. But during the gossip about the bargain the facts in regard to the usefulness of Gibraltar were prominently noticed in the press, and after it was discovered that the Spanish did not intend to receive an English prince as their ruler, even though he brought an old, worn out, obsolete fortress by way of a bribe, the English diplomatists cast about for some other plea for getting rid of the rocky elephant on their hands and securing something more valuable in return. They could not swap Gibraltar for the Spanish throne, so now they are trying to swap Gibraltar for Ceuta.

Ceuta is a town and harbor on the Moorish coast and

was captured from the Moors by Spain, to which nation it now belongs. It has a good, commodious harbor, age, and at a comparatively small expense could be converted into a safe depot for naval and military supplies.

Dockyards could easily be erected there, and with the modern system of fortifications and floating batteries the place could be rendered as impregnable as Gibraltar once claimed to be. What the English ask is that Spain shall give them Ceuta in exchange for Gibraltar, and shall also give sufficient money "to boot" to erect the necessary fortifications and prepare the harbor for war vessels. This is British "magnanimity!" This is the generosity which is to "considerably impress foreign observers!" This trade, barter, swap, in which Spain get a useless rock in exchange for a magnificent harbor, is termed "surrendering a strong military position and throwing away a grand historical trophy out of pure deference to the assumed susceptibilities of others!" Since the wily magician came to Aladdin's palace crying "New lamps for old!" there has been no such one-sided bargain veiled under the thin hypocrisy of magnanimity, benevolence, generosity, and all the other virtues.

It is to be hoped that the Spanish government will not be taken in by this shrewd scheme. Gibraltar, as a fortress, will be of no possible value to Spain. Ceuta, both as a town and a seaport, may be immensely valuable. In the hands of England or any other Power, Ceuta might be made to dominate all the coast of Spain. Fast privateers issuing thence could cripple all Spanish commerce in the Mediterranean, and a fleet could be fitted out there to bombard Cadiz and Malaga. If, through the necessities of the Spanish treasury, Ceuta is now or ever shall be in the market, the United States need a station in the Mediterranean now quite as much as England, and could afford to pay hard dollars for it instead of the hard rocks that England offers. It seems to me that in the present provisional condition of the Spanish government, and taking into account the republican tendencies of the Spanish people and the intimate relations which exist and are being strengthened between Spain and the United States, it is at once the privilege and the duty of Secretary Seward to interfere in this matter by a word of advice and warning to the Spanish Ambassador at Washington, and that it is equally the privilege and the duty of the American press to expose this contemplated bargain which very closely resembles a British swindle.

AN ACT OF JUSTICE.

THE following extract from the *Congressional Globe* will be read with interest by our naval officers, and especially by the friends of Captain Charles Hunter, who will readily recall the circumstances referred to:

MR. ANTHONY.—I am instructed by the Committee on Naval Affairs, to whom was referred the petition of Charles Hunter, praying for pay from the 22d of June, 1863, to the 21st of June, 1866, to report a bill for his relief: and as this is a bill that will create no debate, I ask for its present consideration.

By unanimous consent, the bill (S. No. 844) for the relief of Captain Charles Hunter, of the United States Navy, was twice read, and considered as in Committee of the Whole. It directs the Secretary of the Treasury to pay to Captain Charles Hunter, United States Navy, pay as commander in the Navy on leave from the 22d of June, 1863, to the 21st of June, 1866.

The bill was reported to the Senate without amendment.

MR. CONKLING.—I presume there is a report accompanying this bill, or else there should be some explanation of it. I wish the Senator would let us understand it.

MR. ANTHONY.—I will explain it in one moment. Captain Charles Hunter was in command of the United States steamer *Montgomery* in 1862. Cruising off the coast of Cuba, he sighted a rebel steamer. He fired a blank shot, and the vessel showed very suspicious indications and endeavored to avoid him and ran toward the land. He endeavored to cut her off, but she got within neutral ground, within the marine league, before he could reach her. She then cast anchor. He sent his boats out to ascertain her character, and the crew fired the vessel and she was destroyed. She proved to be the steamer *Blanche*. She had also other names. She had been a very celebrated blockade runner, and was then, I think, upon her fifth successful voyage. The vessel was destroyed; but it was destroyed—although the act of her own crew—in neutral waters, and the Spanish government complained against ours on that ground. For performing his duty too well, Captain Hunter was tried by court-martial, and under the pressure of diplomatic necessity he was broken, but recommended by the court to executive clemency. The President and Secretary of the Navy were disposed to restore him immediately. Admiral Farragut told me he ought to have been promoted for it. But in the then condition of the country, it was not thought advisable or prudent to offend any foreign nation, and as Spain had made remonstrances on the subject, the sentence was carried into execution. The Navy Department informed the State Department of its desire to restore Captain Hunter just so soon as it could be done with safety to our diplomatic relations. As soon as that period arrived, Mr. Seward addressed a letter to Mr. Welles, stating that he had no further objection to the restoration of Captain Hunter; and he was immediately restored, nominated and confirmed. This bill is to give him leave pay during the time that he was deprived of his commission for having performed his duty too well. The report is unanimously made by the Committee on Naval Affairs.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time and passed.

ADMIRAL Sir Lucius Curtis, K. C. B., the senior Admiral of her Majesty's fleet and of the British Navy, died last month at his residence, at the foot of the southern slopes of Portsmouth-hill, near the village of Cosham, and within view of Portsmouth, where he first entered the naval service, nearly seventy-four years ago.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Our correspondents are informed that communications intended for our columns, to receive prompt attention, should be invariably addressed to THE EDITOR of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, Box 3,201, New York.

SOLDIER'S SCHOOLS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: In the issue of the JOURNAL for January 16, 1869, appeared an article signed "West Pointer," and entitled "A Chapter on Grumbles." So much of the "Grumble" as relates to pay, has my hearty approval, and I likewise sympathize with "West Pointer's" regrets that the recitations of the artillery subalterns are confined to the three text-books he mentions. I would much prefer to have their studies extend over a wider field, comprehending, for instance, the Geography of our country and practical instruction in map-making. But so much of the grumble as complains of the compulsory teaching of the soldiers by the officers, is, in my opinion, indicative of a want of that liberality of sentiment that should characterize an officer of a republic, and particularly an officer who aspires to write for a public journal. "West Pointer" is simply behind the age. He has, apparently, gotten into one of those "army ruts," not grooves, where he will find some men much older than himself wasting their time feebly discussing the propriety of measures long since solved by the sword and the nervous arms of an aroused and indignant people. They belong to that class of medieval Pennsylvania Loco-Focos, who still vote for General Jackson. In the age in which we live, men have discovered that the true way to elevate society is to strengthen and build up from the foundation. So far is this idea carried into the every-day affairs of life that it is not an uncommon sight to see the uppermost two or three stories of a brick building raised and held up by heavy beams while another story, and a finer one, is built on the foundation. Is "West Pointer" afraid of having his upper story raised?

My idea of this matter is not, I trust, Utopian, but such as it is I have attempted to carry it out, and I present it for the consideration of those of my comrades who have hopes of seeing the Army improve in the morale of its rank and file. Every enlisted man should be taught reading and writing at least, and, while I would not discharge from service or refuse to enlist well-recommended men who were ignorant of these accomplishments, yet I would make it compulsory for them to learn and compulsory on their captains to have men so unfortunately ignorant properly taught; after that, should any of these men disclose an unwillingness to learn these simple rudiments, I would have them discharged from the service with a statement of the facts on their discharge papers. In a few years I would expect to see all the enlisted men of the Army possessed of a good common school education, the intemperate men driven in disgrace from the service, and one of the qualifications necessary for enlistment a knowledge of reading and writing the English language. I would, with God's blessing, make the Army the School of the Nation. Its reputation should stand so high that it would be a real instead of a nominal honor to be called an "old soldier."

You may say that there is little use in officers striving after such a desirable state of affairs, so long as the ill-considered and mischievous propositions of certain Congressmen affect the stability of our Army and give officers and men an idea that it is hardly worth their while to be qualified for a profession from which they may be driven to-morrow by a brief act of Congress. But do not despair. So soon as all the public lands are voted away, a consummation that will be reached in about a year at the present rate of depletion, our representatives will turn to our real interests and, perhaps, pass two or three laws, with some provision for their execution, which will tend to elevate the rank and file in the estimation of the public. Let us hope these laws will embrace something like the following:

1st. It shall be a State-prison offence to sell liquor to a soldier.

2d. Any teamster, car-driver, or other citizen found wearing any part of a soldier's uniform, particularly the overcoat, shall be fined and imprisoned.

3d. No man shall be enlisted into the American Army unless he be able to read and write the English language.

4th. Drunkenness shall be a sufficient cause for a dishonorable discharge, on the recommendation of the captain of the company to which the drunkard belongs.

But before the wisdom of Congress has attained that point let us, as officers responsible for the moral as well as the physical welfare of the men committed to our charge, have done our part in this much needed Army reform. And then, if we all work together, the day need not be far distant when a soldier's honorable discharge, certified to on honor by an officer, shall mean that the man is educated, disciplined in mind and body, temperate, truthful and qualified for any position of trust to which a freeman can dare aspire.

"A Chapter on Grumbles" would, most likely, have remained somewhat longer unanswered by me, had it not been for my receiving, a few days ago, a letter referring to this very subject. The writer of this letter is striving his best to carry out ideas similar somewhat to those advanced above. He has served with distinction nearly fifteen years in our Army, ranks high in the line of promotion in the arm to which he belongs, and by his good qualities has won almost the highest distinction in the power of the President and Senate to confer upon an Army officer. This letter was written to me not for publication but simply as a private and indignant protest against the ideas advanced by "West Pointer." It was accompanied by a request for me to answer that correspondent by publishing my own views. But the desired end will be much easier attained by laying a portion of my friend's letter before your readers—and he will forgive me, I am sure, when I tell him that

I could not have plead the cause of the soldier half so well as he has in his simple and manly letter:

I don't know that I have much news to tell you. You will, however, like to hear, and I am right glad to tell you, that we have been absolutely without drunkards in this command since the 1st of January, and that we are all doing as much good to keep the men pleasantly and profitably employed as we can. We have an excellent school for the men, taught by the officers. The men are eager to learn, and they are kept from idleness and the devil's ways. Some one, in the dignity of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, says it is beneath the dignity of an officer to teach the men of his command to read and write. Beneath the dignity of a gentleman to impart instruction to the poor ignorant soldier who may happen not to know his A B C's! Is that so? Have we no school teachers in the country who are gentlemen? Who imparted knowledge to the writer of the letter in the JOURNAL? Is the soldier any lower in the scale of creation than the same man in college, or a bare-legged little boy at school before he becomes a soldier? Are or are not chaplains and ministers of the gospel gentlemen? The author of the article I am writing to you about says that chaplains can and should teach, while "subs" would lose their dignity by doing so. I presume the writer of that communication is a "sub." I have written so much to you on the school question, because I am fearful that the article will have a bad effect on the school, about which we have taken so much pride and which has really done so much good. I think I knew your opinion on this matter. As for myself I do not see it in the same light as does "West Pointer." I do not so understand it. Cobbett was taught all he knew while he was a soldier. There is in the library of one of our batteries a treatise on practical geometry, written by a distinguished officer of the English Corps of Artillery for the use of non-commissioned officers of that corps, and taught to the men by its author. Could I not cite numerous examples of gentlemen school-teachers? Verily, the doing of good in our day is up-hill work.

I want you, my dear friend, to tell me whether doing good in a quiet way, such as instructing soldiers in reading, writing, arithmetic, etc., and thus keeping them from the gin-shop and the brothel, and making good soldiers of them, is unofficerlike or ungentlemanly, in your opinion? Is it not, on the contrary, calculated to raise the morale of the enlisted men of the army?

You have the answer already, my friend; and permit me in this public manner to assure you of at least one man's earnest support. And, Mr. Editor, in closing, allow me to thank you for the space you have allotted me, and to subscribe myself

ANOTHER WEST POINTER.

SOME STUBBORN TRUTHS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: Notwithstanding our people have, to a great extent, become familiar with the duties of the Army, there is still great ignorance in regard to the actual pay of officers. A vague idea exists that officers of the Army not only draw large salaries, but that in addition thereto there are other allowances made by the Government, exactly what they do not understand; but that something more is allowed, is very generally believed. How often have I heard the question asked by persons in civil life when talking on this subject, "Does not the Government furnish you with all you want to eat?" and when told that every mouthful of food an officer puts into his own or the mouths of his family, costs him just as many dollars and cents as if he were not in the service, they receive it with a look of doubtful surprise.

Again, people are very apt to associate rank and age together in their ideas. They look upon second lieutenants as striplings, and in their minds age increases in about the same ratio as rank, and thinking of the matter (if at all) in a shrewd business-like way, they judge of our necessities by comparison, contrasting the wants of junior officers with those of quite young men in civil life. They forget, or, perhaps, do not know, that quite a large proportion of the subalterns of the Army are men well advanced in years and very many of them with families to support. Let us examine and see exactly what the different grades of company officers are paid, and a better opinion can then be formed how well they can live. A second lieutenant of infantry receives \$111 04 per month; a first lieutenant of infantry receives \$115 79 per month; a captain commanding his company, \$134 79 per month; now this is the entire revenue of these grades of rank derived from the Government. The position that an officer of the Army is expected and compelled to fill, both in the Army and the society, and the expense necessarily attending, the amount of education and of refinement looked for by everyone I will not enlarge upon. They are facts which are known to be, however much they may be poohed at by pretended unbelievers. The cost of living in the Army is difficult to arrive at in figures, varying, as it does, in different parts of the country. I have tried it in the North, the South, and the West. The only result I have been able to arrive at, (and it is far from a satisfactory one), is that at the end of the month, after paying my debts I have not a cent left. Having paid my mess bill, washing and other actually necessary expenses, the balance melts away into nothing. Now I am a rather "slow coach," but cannot be otherwise unless at the expense of my tailor or my bootmaker, or by depriving my wife of the necessities of life. The latter I do not like to do, for I am one of those strange mortals who think a wife is a good thing to have, and I am the happy possessor of one who is indeed a helpmate.

I cite my own case only because I am one of the class whose pay I have calculated above, and presume that it is a fair criterion to judge by.

An ordinary mechanic will earn working but six days in a week, more than any first lieutenant in the Army; and if he is possessed of a common school education, will rise to a position peculiarly better than any captain; and I firmly believe that there is scarcely a line officer in the Army to-day who, had he devoted the same time, energy, and ability to any calling in civil life, that he has to the service, would not have arrived at a far better pecuniary condition than it is possible for him to attain under our existing pay.

There is another point in connection with this subject which I approach with timidity, fearing that I may be misunderstood, and bring down upon my head the overwhelming anathemas of one of the classes to which I shall refer. It is in regard to the difference in pay and allowances between officers detached from their companies and doing staff duties, and officers of the same grade doing duty with their companies.

Let me now be fully understood, not as thinking the pay of a staff officer too much, but that that of a company officer is too small. Take, for instance, the pay of a captain of infantry, acting as aide-de-camp, stationed in cities or towns, where he can have all the comforts of civil-

ized life, no responsibility for the welfare of men or for public property, his tour of duty lasting, perhaps, from 9 A. M. until 3 P. M., his pay and allowances amount, in most of the places where such officers are stationed, to about two hundred and thirty-four dollars.

Transfer this same captain to his company, perhaps in the wilds of Texas, perhaps on the extreme western frontier, or to Sitka, where he is deprived of all the luxuries and many of the necessities of life, give him a company whose well-being and doing he is responsible for, with hundreds, perhaps thousands of dollars' worth of public property to account for, and his pay dwindles down to one hundred and thirty-four dollars. Is it to be wondered at that officers prefer staff duty, and use their utmost efforts to secure such details? As I before said, I do not wish to be understood as thinking that the pay of an acting staff officer is too much. I know, by experience, that officers cannot live in our large cities on less than they are getting, but I do think that an officer on duty with his company deserves a little more than barely sufficient to clothe and feed himself and family.

EARNEST.

THE CHANGE OF UNIFORM.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: I desire to say a few words in respect to a change of uniform, both for the Army and Marine Corps. The present style is perfectly ridiculous, and when worn as issued by the quartermaster, is one of the most absurd that has ever been gotten up. Is it the desire of the Government that their soldiers and marines should present such a truly lamentable appearance? I hope not. Then how is it that we are clothed in goods so inferior both in style and quality, to those worn by the same branches of the service in Europe? While they always look neat and trim, we, on the other hand, look rough and shabby. But this is not our fault, for some of us, in order to present a respectable appearance, pay away half of our small pittance, to have these coverings altered. And I assert that the soldiers and marines have, in this manner, taken away a part of the disgrace which has attached itself to the Government, for the shabby manner in which they clothe their national defenders.

Give the marine a short jacket of dark blue cloth, with light blue collar and cuffs. Pants of the same dark blue, narrow at the bottoms, in the style called pegtop. Fatigue cap, after the style of the French Chasseur. Shoes that will keep the cattle from chuckling with joy, conscious that their hides, like their brother's which has just passed by, will be made up into one pair of shoes only.

Now for the soldier. Give him grey fatigue coat, cap and trowsers. The collar and cuffs of the coat to be of the color generally worn by the branch of the service to which they belong. If infantry, light blue; cavalry, yellow; artillery, red. I have called the attention of the powers that be, to a few, and only a few, of the changes we think could be made in the *tout ensemble* of our Army and Marine Corps. Make these changes, and I confidently assert that those who are ashamed of the uniform now worn, will don with pleasure, aye, pride, the change which I have recommended.

CHANGE.

TAKING THE BULL BY THE HORNS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: I have read the terms of the Senate bill upon the reorganization of the Army, and the statements credited to General Hancock before the House Military Committee upon the same subject. I recognize in both, features which I have frequently suggested in conversation with brother officers on these matters. It is well for officers and others interested to remember that the Army is ever present as a tempting object of retrenchment. It sounds well, patriotic and economical to talk about cutting down the Army. It would be far wiser to aid in what I firmly believe will sooner or later be done, a sweeping reduction of the Army, than to quietly await the inevitable without any voice in the matter and all the penalties to bear besides.

It must strike every one that if retrenchment is needed it should not commence with the force actually in operation and too small for its work; but a close scrutiny ought to be directed to the machinery which keeps this force in motion, in order to ascertain if here some economy might not first be practised. This might very properly be made the matter of an inquiry by a mixed board of Army officers of distinction and civilians, and the result of their investigations reported to Congress to form the basis of an intelligent and well digested bill. The same board could, as a matter of course, direct its inquiry to the line, and thus present a permanent and comprehensive plan which would relieve legislation of this endless bugbear of a useless Army, and the Army itself from continual annoyance and anxiety.

General Hancock's suggestion of the consolidation of bureaus is well worthy of attention, and would be certain to lower the annual estimates for the Army, if adopted. The Army could as well be paid by the Quartermaster's Department as not. Already that department pays the large force of civil employes necessarily used by the Government in the skilled labor not found among the troops. It has been said in this connection that the troops paid by a certain system and by this department, through the commanding officers of companies, would be enabled to receive their pay far more frequently, say once a week, and with manifest advantage to discipline. An extra sheet to the monthly returns of clothing, camp and garrison equipage would do it. This change need not augment the number of officers in the Quartermaster's Department, unless it be proposed that the paymaster's corps be absorbed in that department as vacancies occur.

The Senate bill limits the appointments of second lieutenants to fifty annually. Why not abolish the grade? In a few years, perhaps a less time, the effect

* It is evident that our correspondent is neither a paymaster nor a second lieutenant.

of such a bill will do so practically. When armies were more cumbersome affairs than now, four officers were considered necessary to a company. I believe that but a captain and lieutenant are now needed, the more especially during the prevalence of peace. The legislation which attacks the existence of a company quartermaster-sergeant is, I consider, faulty. It is true you will find some who say a captain should be his own clerk. But a captain who does his whole duty will find little time for such matters, and if he makes his lieutenant do his duty his time will also be very well filled. A close personal supervision is all that should be required of him in clerical matters, and it is our interest to give this. Nevertheless, no quarrel can be made with such legislation if carried still further in the direction indicated in the excellent provision of the bill (bearing the impress of Senator Wilson's mind) as to Sunday parades, intoxication and immorality. Let the moral standard of the service be raised by enacting such laws as will make it attractive as a life profession to the young manhood of our country. Then we could find all the material we need for quartermaster and commissary-sergeants, and good ones too. In this connection I have a suggestion to offer in regard to the sergeants of the Army. In your last issue you give your readers the assimilated rank between Army and Navy officers. There remains one other class of naval officers not mentioned. I allude to those variously called warrant or forward officers, the boatswain, gunner, carpenter and sailmaker. These men any naval officer will tell you are very essential to the complete organization of any man-of-war. They seem to naturally assimilate with our grade of sergeant, four of whom, if placed on the same plane of education, would not only be ample for any company, but better than the present six, and enable us to easily part with the four useless corporals.

The warrant officers of the Navy receive their warrants from the President; are better paid, and in a certain sense are the associates of the commissioned officers. It is true, I believe, that they do not have the privilege of the quarter-deck, and are not roomed in the ward-room, but they have their individual staterooms, and are persons of consequence.

Is it impossible to do the same for our sergeants? Cannot some central schools (say Fort Columbus and Newport Barracks) be established for ambitious men, who, on passing a successful examination, will be entitled to warrants from the President, only revokable by the sentence of a court-martial? Is it impossible to provide for a higher and more searching examination, after a period of probation, which would positively entitle a limited number of successful candidates to a commission as lieutenant? I say nothing about minor details, such as difference of pay, change of uniform, and status.

Let any one take the crude ideas thus set forth and reduce them to their pecuniary value, and it will be found that an annual expenditure of perhaps a million dollars will be saved, and the Army at the same time benefitted and made popular. Until this is done each session of Congress will see more tinkering, until it is tinkered out of shape and perhaps out of usefulness.

A.

THE PROPOSED NAVAL ORGANIZATION.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

SIR: The suggestion of your correspondent, C, in relation to forming a Naval organization similar to that recently formed by the Army at Chicago, will no doubt meet with the approbation of the many volunteer naval officers scattered broadcast through the land, but would not the furtherance of some benevolent object be the proper basis to organize on, instead of an annual cruise down Long Island Sound.

Many of the Volunteer officers have given up their seagoing propensities and will probably, in the future, make good farmers, lumbermen, or manufacturers; to such, a cruise would not probably be practicable, but if it is possible to organize a society to assist our brother officers' widows and orphan children, then many West can be relied on to join such an organization, and promote its interests. Respectfully,

W. G. M.

MOLINE, ROCK ISLAND CO., ILL.

AMONG THE HORSE GROWERS.

FROM the advance sheets of "The Galaxy" magazine for March we extract the following:

About two miles west of Newburg is the Newburg Stud Farm, in a broad, open valley, backed by broken hills, with a swift stream running through it. Comfortable houses and good stables indicate a well-considered expenditure, and with reference to profit rather than show.

On this great farm are to be seen, running loose on the snow-covered fields, herds of yearlings and two-year-olds, rough, unlicked, long-haired. It is not easy for the uninitiated to believe that some of these unkempt creatures are worth more than a thousand dollars as they stand. But, with singular confidence, they come up to you, they put their noses into your hand, they wish to nip at your coat, they have no other idea than that you are their friend. Then you begin to see that they have broad faces, great, intelligent eyes, quick, flexible ears, and confidence. You are pointed to the depth of chest, which indicates lung power and large hearts. You see that they are even now strongly developed behind, where the great propelling power of the trotter lies. You see, too, that the stifles are wide, and that the muscles creep well down toward the hock-joint, which is low on the leg. Very soon you begin to believe that these uncombed, wild-looking, but gentle colts are indeed worth money, and that they are the stock from which is to be developed the Gentlemen's Road Horse of Eastern America in the coming time. You go into the open yards and find, in groups of five or six, the brood-mares, as rough-looking, as unpromising as their children; but you learn that most of them have racing blood in their veins—are descendants of Mambrino, or Abdallah,

or Clay, or Star, or some other of the noted horses; and nearly all have made their mark, have done their mile in 2.50, 2.40, or 2.30, and so have won their places as mothers of noted offspring.

Now your first impression may be that these colts are hardly treated; that they do not have the shelter or the cleaning they ought. But you will be assured that this open-air treatment insures a hardy and enduring horse, and is infinitely superior to blanketing and sheltering; and you will believe it. If you feel of the skin you will find it loose and the hair very thick and close, more like fur than hair; and you will understand that, with room for exercise, the colt will not be likely to suffer from cold.

Possibly you will be taken into a small yard, inclosed by a high fence, in one corner of which is an open shed. Out of this will rush at you a young three-year-old stallion; he will snort and lash his tail, and stand on his legs, and paw the air, and you may fancy you are going to be devoured. But the manager holds up his hand or his whip, and speaks to him, and then you see he is entirely under control. And this is one of the peculiarities at all these great farms: the horses are intelligent and tractable; they know their masters, and like them; they hurt no one, and rarely hurt one another.

I asked the manager at the Newburg Farm, "How many do you lose by accident or injury?"

"Not one in fifty, perhaps not one in a hundred."

And this I found the answer at all the farms.

"Do you practise high feeding—forcing the colts?"

We asked of the manager.

"We give a little grain when they are about three months old—enough to get them accustomed to it, and when we wean them we give some four to six quarts a day through the year, while they are running in the fields. We lessen this the second year to about four quarts, because then the colts are kept up more; do not have so much exercise. We want to give feed enough to keep the colts growing without check."

"How much do you keep them out in the air?"

"All the day except in stormy weather. The more air and sunlight the better they do, the healthier and stronger they grow."

I come now to a curious and still open question—Whence comes this tremendous trotting action, as shown in the American road horse? Racing men assert that the natural fast gait of the horse is the run, and that no high-bred horse trots fast naturally—therefore that the thoroughbred must be crossed with the "dung-hill" or "cold-blooded" mare to secure a fast trot. We introduced the subject to Mr. Goldsmith.

"I will show you a little of the natural fast gait."

Then were brought in succession three young horses, three-year-olds. They were turned loose in the open field and went trotting away at a great stride, head and tail erect. Then they were scared along by running at them; the dog went after them, and still they trotted fast; if they broke into a run they came down again almost instantly; it was evident that they had a fast trot, which was the gait they preferred.

"What is your explanation of this matter?"

"I will tell you. There have stood in this country the following stallions, all except Bellfounder and Abdallah thoroughbreds, and they nearly so: Messenger, about 1795; Baronet, about 1795; Seagull, about 1820; Bellfounder, about 1831-32; American Star, about 1840; Abdallah, about 1848-50 and some others. Of these, Messenger, Bellfounder, American Star, and Abdallah were natural trotters, and it is asserted that Messenger has come in at the end of a running race on a fast trot. Out of these natural thoroughbred trotters have come our great road horses."

For the first time we non-professional men got what seemed a reasonable explanation of a great fact. The great road horse is not a mere accident.

England has produced or perfected the race-horse, America the road horse. England, by great care, great skill, and vast expenditure of money, has perfected the race horse; wonderfully fine and altogether useless. America, by great care, great skill, and considerable expenditure of money, has produced the trotter; altogether valuable—that is the difference.

This quality—the swift trot—has been, in a sense, created by man, and is now transmitted and perpetuated. How?

By breeding from such horses as showed such a tendency, and by training the progeny so as to create increased speed, which increased speed has been transmitted and intensified. It has now reached a single mile in 2 m. 17 1/4 s., and twenty miles within the hour. What more can be done? No man can tell.

Early training all experts seem to deprecate, but not early handling. High feeding and early training have filled the English racing stables with weedy colts who come to nothing. A few trotters have made fast time at three years, but it is considered dangerous for a horse, who is meant to do his best and to last, to urge him so early. Woodruff, admitted to be an authority upon this point, strongly deprecates early training, and states that the best horses have not been so trained. But early handling—gentling—is of the first importance.

"What," I asked of a great and most intelligent grower, "do you consider of most importance, next to blood?"

"Handling, gentling, so that the colt knows you as his friend. He must never be frightened. Once frightened it is impossible for him to do his best. He must have perfect confidence in man."

We may as well make up our minds that the day of cheap or rather, low-priced, horses has ended. A good road horse cannot now be sold for less than four hundred dollars, and that upward. The cost of a good four-year-old is not less than that amount, and may be more. Whoever, therefore, buys a horse for less than this, may be sure that he is not getting a good horse. And there is better economy, too in buying class of horses than low-priced ones; they are really cheaper. A horse that has the blood and training which will insure him to be good at the age of twenty is cheap at anything under one thousand dollars.

PARAGRAPHS.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Providence Journal*, who has read the account which we gave last week of a manuscript diary kept by a French officer on General Rochambeau's staff while in this country in 1781, calls attention to the fact that M. Beaujeau is mentioned as probably one of the General's aids. While looking over a French official list of the Army and Navy, printed at the royal press, in Newport, 1781, this name does not appear. General Rochambeau's staff consisted of Counts Fersen, (a favorite of Queen Marie Antoinette), Damas, Dumas, Chevalier Lameth, M. De Lauberdier, and le Baron de Clozen. Count Fersen ranked as colonel, and the others as captains. It would be interesting to know which of these officers was the author of the diary above referred to.

MONS. A. Chevalier, a Swiss aeronaut, who proposes to make a balloon voyage across the Atlantic to Europe, arrived in this country recently. He is only about thirty, but has had an enlarged experience as a balloonist during the past twelve years. He has spent a fortune on flying machines, and by the common mode of ballooning has made hundreds of ascents in every country of Europe and in Australia. Once he sailed in his balloon from Paris beyond the boundaries of Russia. On another occasion he crossed the St. George's Channel from Dublin into England. In one of his trips he made the extraordinary flight of seven hundred miles in four hours. In another ascent, just before coming to this country, he was driven forty-five miles in an hour. M. Chevalier has brought with him, in complete readiness, the balloon in which he proposes to make his perilous journey. It is of a peculiar shape, and of these dimensions: 95 feet in height, 150 feet in diameter; capacity for gas, 125,000 cubic feet. The car being made of bamboo, and in the shape of a house, resembles a long bamboo hut, and will probably accommodate as many passengers as will desire to go upon the voyage. M. Chevalier is desirous of making the start at as early a date as possible, and at all events, before the return of warm weather.

THE Memphis, Tennessee, *Post* thus describes the punishment inflicted, on the 27th of January, on three privates of the force garrisoning that post, named Myron H. Strong, Harmon Springsteen and Stephen Madden, Company C, Twenty-fifth infantry, who were tried by a general court-martial upon the charge of desertion, and, sentenced to have their heads shaven, their left hips tattooed with the letter D, and to be dishonorably discharged from the United States service. In the morning the barber of the battalion performed the job of shaving the hair from their heads, leaving them as bare as a clean-shaven face. Then their pantaloons were taken off and the letter D stamped with India ink upon their hips. The officer of the day, together with a guard, supervised the execution of these penalties, the soldiers submitting to the disgrace in silence. In the afternoon, at the dress parade, they were brought out in their undress, with their shaven heads uncovered, and marched (headed with the drum corps, and followed by a guard) in front of the whole command, through the navy-yard to the various offices, and then into the city through several of the prominent streets. After being exposed and paraded in this manner for some time, they were then formally dismissed, and ordered to leave the garrison, which they did with an air of deep shame and mortification, better conceived than expressed. Strong had been a clerk in General Grant's headquarters in the Army, and had deserted once before, but was restored to duty by order of the General, on probation. His second desertion was on the 28th of April. Springsteen deserted on the 14th of March, 1868, and Madden on the 28th of July, 1868.

THE vexed question of the origin of the race, has, says the *Providence Press*, again arisen among ethnologists on account of certain discoveries lately made in Alaska, by Captain Fast; going to show that migration had taken place from Asia to this continent, and confirmatory of the theory of the unity of the human race. An examination of the ivory, bone and wood carvings found in Alaska by Captain Fast, by one who professes to be well acquainted with Japanese skill, satisfies him that they were either made in Japan or that the art of making them was learned in Japan, and carried on by the original settlers of Alaska. The geographical position of Alaska with reference to Japan would seem to favor the idea of migration from the latter to the former. A strong current sweeps north-easterly from Northern Japan towards the Aleutian Islands, so that it would not be difficult to go from Japan to one of these islands, and the transit to Alaska would be an easy matter. This would be a natural explanation of the means by which the skill of the Japanese or the products of their skill became known in Alaska. Mexican traditions allude to the original settlement of Mexico by adventurers who came from the "seven caves." Subsequent investigations have shown that these caves were in the Aleutian islands, where the people live in subterranean apartments which they enter through a hole in the top. Mr. Schoolcraft arrives at the following conclusion after a careful examination of authorities. "Thus we have traditional gleams of a foreign origin of the race of North American Indians, from separate stocks of nations, extending at intervals from the Arctic circle to the valley of Mexico. Dim as these studies are, they shed some light on the thick historical darkness which shrouds that period. They point decidedly to a foreign—to an Oriental, if not a Shemitic origin. Such an origin has from the first been inferred. At whatever point the investigation has been made, the Eastern hemisphere has been found to contain the physical and mental prototypes of the race. Language, mythology—religious dogmas—the very style of architecture—and their calendar, as far as it is developed, point to that fruitful and central source of dispersion and nationality.

BREVET Brigadier General N. B. McLaughlin, captain Fourth Cavalry, has been ordered to repair to New Orleans, La., on business connected with his command.

FOREIGN MILITARY AND SCIENTIFIC.

EXPERIMENTS were to take place at Shoeburyness, by order of the War Department, on the 21st January, to establish the properties of the new shell invented by Mr. Fitzmaurice Palmer, who claims to have discovered an explosive projectile surpassing, for field artillery operations, any hitherto employed.

A FOREIGN journal says that Italy professes to have an army of about 350,000 men, and a Mobile National Guard of some 130,000; but the weakness of the Government and the flightiness of the people render the Italian army of less value in calculations than any other in Europe, Spain excepted. The technical education of officers for the scientific corps is carried too far. Those of them who have the true military spirit are disgusted by useless details. Others, with heads for engineering, leave the service and seek civil employment.

"THE year 1868," says the *Moniteur de l'Armée*, "has terminated without a single shot having been fired by the French Army. Such an event is of rare occurrence. But if that period did not contribute its contingent of glory to our soldiers, it has not been without fruit to the military cause. A law has deeply modified our system of recruitment, and has placed our armed force in complete harmony with the requirements of the country at home and with the necessities of European policy abroad. Besides, by means of the ability and energy of the Minister of War, the reorganized Army, supported by a young and well-trained National Guard Mobile, provided with an arm not inferior to any of modern inventions of the kind, our military state places France in a position to meet all eventualities."

FOR the last two years the arsenal at Vienna has been almost idle. The idle workshops were a standing offence to Baron Kuhn, and he has let them to a private manufacturer in Vienna, who binds himself to introduce the newest machinery, to execute any Government orders that he may receive at prices to be fixed by a commission, and to yield up the arsenal at any time, after only eight days' notice. His profits will be derived not so much from the Government as from the additional power which he obtains of executing private orders, or orders from foreign Governments, which have been heaped upon him in such quantities as to cause his present manufactories to overflow. Instead of being a costly incumbrance the arsenal will now bring in to the Government a regular yearly income.

THE last French Blue Book announces that France has an army of 750,000 trained soldiers, supported by about 600,000 National Guard Mobile. 293,164 young men drew lots in the lottery of conscription; 12,704 purchased substitutes; 6,740 exonerated themselves (according to the old law, now expired). The conscripts drafted amounted to 62,000; fourteen thousand were set aside as incapable (nearly 25 per cent.); 40,000 were drafted into the army, and 8,000 into the navy. 334,280 men are actually under arms; 114,431 are on leave of absence, which may at any moment be cancelled; total, 448,771; distributed—378,852 in France, 64,531 in Algeria, 5,328 in Italy. The total force of the army—reserves and National Guard Mobile—is 1,028,980 men. Sixty regiments of infantry, fourteen battalions of Chasseurs-à-pied, and thirty regiments of cavalry are trained annually in the camps of instruction. Officers have shown great zeal in the study of new questions of military art. The Ministry of War has seconded with cordiality this intellectual activity by striving to assure to each officer the means of developing his knowledge, or of acquiring new knowledge. Besides giving officers special treatises as far as possible, lectures on different military questions of the day have been established in each corps, and their subjects have been prepared by a special committee in the Ministry of War. The first application of this system raises hopes that the happiest results will flow from it. All the infantry (engineers included) are armed with the Chassepot musket. The cavalry have temporarily been armed with the old dragoon muskets transformed into a breech-loading gun. Three hundred and ninety-three thousand Chassepot muskets were made in 1868 in the Imperial arsenals, 95,000 were made at Birmingham, Liege, Maestricht, Placentia, Brescia, and Vienna; 100,000 more were made abroad by a private company; 216,000 old muskets have been transformed into breech-loaders, 100,000,000 cartridges were made in the State workshops, and 100,000,000 in private workshops. One company of engineers study theoretical and applied telegraphy during the winter and applies this knowledge during the summer in the scholars' camp; three companies of engineers are instructed and drilled in everything relating to the construction and destruction of railways, and the management of locomotives. The number of invalids is constantly decreasing. It fell last year from 1,160 to 1,096.

U. S. ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1869.

In order to accommodate the subscribers of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, we have made arrangements with several of the best periodicals, by which we can send them and the JOURNAL together, at reduced rates, as follows:

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THEN AND NOW.

IN old times, when, numerically, the United States Navy was a small affair, Americans could at least point with pride to the *individual* excellence of such war vessels as floated the Stars and Stripes on foreign stations. But time has changed all this. Novel systems of marine engineering have been introduced by the Chief of the Bureau of Steam Engineering; all departments of the vessel have become subordinate to its steam machinery, and the national vessels now on foreign stations, instead of exciting respect, are the laughing stock of foreign officers. Naval officers of the '41 date, and earlier, remember the United States steamer *Princeton*, the first screw war vessel ever built, and the one which dictated reconstruction to the navies of the world. Still later, the Navy can call to mind the great commotion created in England by the appearance of the forty-gun frigate *Merrimac* in Southampton harbor in 1855-'56. A "parliamentary panic," only exceeded by the advent of the *Monitor*, was the result of this visit. Funds were voted forthwith, and instructions given to construct a class of frigates of sufficient power to cope with the new American monsters with their tremendous battery of shell guns. The result is well known; three formidable additions were made to the British Navy in the frigates *Mersey*, *Diadem* and *Doris*. But a new régime was established, and with it a new class of vessels came into notice as the representatives of the national power in foreign parts; vessels of the *Piscataqua* class, first in point of size, next to the *Wampanoag* fleet. The chief dimensions of these vessels were as follows: length on deck 347 feet; length between perpendiculars 312 feet; breadth 46 feet; displacement 4,170 tons. Engines, two cylinders, 60 inches in diameter by 36 inches length of stroke; number of furnaces, 30; grate surface, 585 square feet; space occupied by engines, 20 feet 6 inches in length by 24 feet in breadth; fire-room 56 feet 6 inches in length; weight of steam machinery about 650 tons; number of guns, 20; spread of canvas, 23,820 square feet.

These dimensions will convince every nautical man that these were war vessels designed to give the Chief of the Bureau of Steam Engineering full scope in producing a brilliant result in way of speed. Qualities essential to efficiency as cruising vessels were accordingly sacrificed for this end; the ratio of length to breadth was excessive, and the lines were in consequence unusually fine, while the weight and the space occupied by the Steam Department was sufficient for the development of power enough to insure great speed. Owing, however, to the new notions prevalent in the Steam Department of the Navy, respectable steam power was not obtained, and instead of the efficient vessels we needed we were presented with another class of hermaphrodite naval craft, neither one thing nor the other. By turning over this fleet to the tender mercy of the Steam Department, we have not secured even decent speed under steam to make up for the sacrifices which have spoiled these ships for other uses equally essential.

From the *Piscataqua*, now the flagship of the Asiatic Squadron, we received a letter which gives

a pretty correct idea of the estimation in which one of these vessels is held by naval officers, after abundant experience to justify an opinion, as this extract shows: "As regards the ship," says our correspondent, "she is a most unmitigated failure with her present arrangement. She rolls fearfully at times in a moderate sea or swell. Under steam and sail we have made twelve knots, but the opinion is that under steam alone, using all the furnaces, she may steam ten knots. Under sail, dragging our propeller (it does not hoist), we have made ten knots, but it seems as if the ship would be racked to pieces, the jarring is so fearful. I believe—could we hoist our propeller—with a moderate blow, we could run from fourteen to fifteen knots. We are very much crowded both in ward room and steerage, as the ship is so much filled with coal bunkers and machinery that she stows her stores and provisions badly. I should like to leave her to-morrow."

This is a fair representative of the style of naval constructions which has been and is still costing the country millions of dollars, besides disgracing the American flag; the result of the influence exercised upon the Secretary of the Navy by the Chief of the Steam Bureau, who has with his plausible arguments led the Secretary to believe that the new era in naval warfare called for such vessels as we have described. Without attempting to define the sort of unarmored craft this new era does really demand, let us glance at a style of vessel, of about the same tonnage as the *Piscataqua* class, designed and built for the English navy before the "era" dawned upon the naval world. We allude to the *Galatea* and *Ariadne* class of unarmored steam wooden vessels, which "possess large sailing ability that they may cruise with canvas, and thereby economize fuel." They are of the following dimensions: length between perpendiculars 280 feet; breadth 50 feet 2 inches; displacement 4,270 tons. While the *Piscataqua* fleet spread but little over 20,000 square feet of canvas, these efficient vessels spread upward of 39,000 square feet, and carry twenty-eight heavy guns. The objection may be urged that this splendid sailing power is obtained by sacrifices in the steam department; but this is not the case, as is easily shown. The *Piscataqua* has but two engines with 60-inch cylinders; the *Galatea* has two engines with cylinders of 80 inches diameter, that is, of about double the capacity of the *Piscataqua*. These engines occupy no more room in the vessel, and, while the *Piscataqua* has thirty furnaces and a fire-room 56 feet 6 inches long, the *Galatea* has but twenty-four furnaces, and a fire-room but 47 feet long. Such, too, is the superior efficiency of her machinery that it develops 3,520 horse-power, though the machinery of the *Piscataqua* has never yet reached 1,950, although it weighs some 650 tons, while the ordinarily planned motive-power of the *Galatea* weighs but 585 tons. Accordingly, we find that while the sharp *Piscataqua* has great difficulty in reaching ten knots per hour under steam, the *Galatea* and *Ariadne* achieve their twelve and thirteen knots. The ratio of the performance, let it be remembered, varies as the cube of the speed, in this case, as 1,000 is to 1,728. In the *Piscataqua*, too, the accommodations are exceedingly cramped, and the officers and crew made uncomfortable during the period of a long cruise in warm latitudes, while the quarters in the English vessels alluded to, of similar displacements but of far greater efficiency are, in every respect, very roomy and comfortable.

We find that it is best to postpone making arrangements with the different railroads to carry members of the Army of the Potomac at half fare, until they are called together to attend the Grand Reunion. From the favorable replies received from different railroads, in answer to letters of inquiry, we have no doubt that satisfactory arrangements can then be made. We were in hopes that some plan could be arranged to bring the preliminary meeting and the reunion so near together that officers could include both in one visit to New York. But this seems impracticable. No one has any authority to commit the members of the Army of the Potomac to a programme, and the modesty which is well known to distinguish all the officers of that organization, makes it impossible to persuade any one to assume such authority. A

all is to be procured, addresses are to be secured, constitution to be framed for the association, a banquet to be provided, and other arrangements made, for which preparations are necessary in advance. Hence, an informal meeting must first be held and arrangements then completed for a larger and more general gathering.

Still, we hope that all who can will exert themselves to be present at the preliminary gathering on the 22d of February, at the armory of the Twenty-second regiment in Fourteenth street. If it is desirable to organize such an association as is proposed it is desirable to organize it under such influences and in such a spirit that its success will be insured. In order to be a success the association must be an society of the Army of the Potomac in the largest sense.

THE breech-loading small arm question continues to exert a powerful influence on the politics of European powers. The military ambition of Russia, it is declared, is held in check by the deficiency of her supply of breech-loaders. It is suspected that she has not enough to furnish her immense Army. It is declared that when the Czar travelled through certain parts of his dominions last year, inspecting various divisions of his army, he was charmed to find so many of them armed with breech-loaders, but extremely puzzled at seeing the want of acquaintance with their use displayed by the soldiers. The story runs that after each inspection the new arms were speedily packed in boxes and forwarded in haste to the next appointed place, where they were put into the men's hands in time to appear on the parade ground. This is, of course, in large part fictitious. The awkwardness of the troops with the new arm has a more probable explanation in the fact that the Russian soldier is almost unequalled in his slowness to acquire new drill. It takes three years to make a Russian soldier, but when he is made he is a beauty. Give him time and he will wield his breech-loader effectively enough.

It is asserted in military circles, the London *Engineer* tells us, that the French government have ceased to manufacture the Chassepot, and taken to the Remington instead. The Remington—the only rifle, by the way, which Prussian military men think superior to the Zündnadel—has been likewise introduced into the Danish and Swedish services. At a late competitive trial of breech-loaders, at the School of Musketry, at Spandau, in Prussia, the result, according to the official journal, showed that the Prussian needle-gun can fire twelve shots a minute, the Chassepot eleven, the Snider ten, the Remington (Denmark) fourteen, the Peabody (Switzerland) thirteen, the Wenzli (Austria) ten, the Werndi (same State) twelve, and the Winchester repeating rifle (United States) nineteen.

The French *mitrailleuse*, about which there has been a good deal of mysterious talk, is now well understood, and is not so astonishing a weapon after all. It is simply a light 37-barrelled gun, breech-loading, and so arranged that the barrels may be discharged one by one, slowly, or almost simultaneously. The thirty-seven cartridges intended for one charge are contained in a small box. A steel plate with corresponding holes is placed on the open box, which is then reversed, and the cartridges fall point foremost into their respective holes. They are prevented from falling through by the rims round their bases. The loaded plate is introduced into the breech slot, and when the breech is closed by a lever, a number of steel pins, pressed by spiral springs, are only prevented from striking the percussion arrangement in the cartridges by a plate in front of them. When this case is moved slowly by a handle, the cartridges are fired gradually one by one. If the plate is withdrawn rapidly they follow each other so quickly that their discharge is almost simultaneous. It is the Gatling gun in another shape, and many practical officers, *Engineering* says, prefer the American invention, which, however, needs some improvements. For the defence of bridges, doorways, in fact everything included under the generic military term *defiles*, such weapons may be of value. They are likely to come much into use as wall pieces, and for the defence of ditches in fortresses. It is difficult to believe that their

value in the field of battle will be worth the increase of transport necessitated by their employment. Meanwhile they have done their work by creating an undefined sensation of awe, and they or Gatling guns will probably be introduced into all Continental armies in order to induce a mental impression more valuable often than a reality.

CONGRESS is getting fierce for the reduction of the Army. In the first place the Appropriation bill has been cut down heavily. Among the reductions already made are the following: For recruiting service, from \$300,000 to \$150,000; for pay of the Army, from \$15,000,000 to \$11,000,000; commutation of officers' subsistence, from \$2,000,000 to \$1,500,000; subsistence in kind for troops, from \$5,500,000 to \$4,500,000; Quartermaster's Department, \$5,000,000 to \$3,000,000; cavalry and artillery horses, \$500,000 to \$250,000; mileage for officers, from \$2,000,000 to \$1,000,000; transportation of the Army, from \$8,500,000 to \$5,000,000; commutation officers' quarters, from \$2,000,000 to \$1,000,000; military surveys, \$200,000, struck out.

General BUTLER, for his part, would leave only the shadow of a military establishment. He never loses an opportunity of showing his enmity to the Regular Army, but he goes too far this time to hope for success. The bill introduced by Mr. GARFIELD, as an amendment to the Army Appropriation bill, is fair in the main. Its principle features are:

- 1st, Consolidate the Quartermaster, Commissary, and Pay Departments into one department, to be called the Department of Supply.
- 2d, Consolidate the ordnance and artillery into one corps.
- 3d, Reduce the number of infantry regiments from forty-five to thirty.
- 4th, No more brigadier-generals of the line to be appointed beyond the present number, eight, thus abolishing the two commissions now vacant.
- 5th, No more brigadier-generals to be appointed in the Staff, except the Chief of the Supply Department.
- 6th, Abolish Regimental Commissaries of Subsistence for cavalry.
- 7th, Reduce the number of non-commissioned officers in each regiment.
- 8th, Abolish bands.
- 9th, The term of enlistment to be five years.
- 10th, The mode of reduction to be by absorption—that is, in military phrase, by "casualty," expiration of terms of enlistment, discharge, death, disability, dismissal, resignation, etc.
- 11th, All the Staff Departments to be reduced in the number of their officers.

No new appointments are to be made, either from West Point or from civil life, until this reduction is accomplished, which it is estimated will require about two years. The number of officers thus cut off is about six hundred; the number of enlisted men, ten thousand. Mr. GARFIELD spoke ably and at length in favor of his amendment, pointing out the justice and advisability of diminishing the number of officers by the system of gradual absorption, rather than by directly and rudely mustering out. Mr. GARFIELD explained that one hundred and fourteen officers had left the service in 1867. Before he could get his amendment before the House he was obliged to withdraw from it a clause transferring the Indian Bureau to the War Department.

There is so much difference of opinion on the subject of Army reduction, as to methods, and the time of Congress is so short—less than three weeks of working days—that there is a probability that nothing final will be done by this Congress. The subject will undoubtedly be discussed in General GRANT's first message, and the action of Congress will be pretty sure to be in accordance with his suggestions. We discuss elsewhere the general subject of Army legislation.

WE hope that none of the officers of our Army will omit to read the manly and sensible letter we publish elsewhere from "Another West Pointer," on the subject of "Soldiers' Schools." It leaves us nothing to say upon the subject, except to give it the most cordial and hearty indorsement.

THE revolution in Cuba seems to be making progress and the prospect of its suppression is not an encouraging one for the Spanish authorities. Mr. SEWARD may as well save his money to purchase other territory, or to help pay the national debt; the Cuban revolutionists are opening a way for the extension of our territory in the Gulf, and we need only watch and wait, giving them meanwhile what sympathy and moral support we

can without violating the strict rules of international comity, whose observance we have demanded of others.

WE refer at length, elsewhere, to the action of Congress with reference to Army reduction and Indian appropriations. It only remains here to record the remainder of legislation for the week. The House passed the bill for the relief of Admiral FARRAGUT and his officers and men. Mr. BUTLER supported and explained the bill. He said that Admiral FARRAGUT's fleet, while it did more fighting than any other fleet, had not received any prize money, the reason being that its captures were generally river steamers that were taken for the use of the Army, and were afterward sold by the Quartermaster's Department. Those boats could not be sent anywhere for prize adjudication because they could not go to sea, and there was no way of getting up the river to Cairo because the rebels held the river blockaded. This bill was for the purpose of giving jurisdiction to the United States Courts the same as if the prizes had been sent in. Mr. KELLEY, who seems determined to ventilate the Bureau of Steam Engineering, got through a resolution calling on the Secretary of the Navy for information as to the amount, etc., expended in experiments on steam expansion, under the direction of the Bureau.

In the Senate very little was done of especial interest to our readers. Mr. WILSON reported, with amendments, the joint resolution relating to the bounties of colored soldiers who entered the service as slaves. As amended, it provides that such persons who volunteered for three years to serve as soldiers, and were honorably discharged, shall receive the same bounty as other soldiers. Mr. WILLIAMS reported, with an amendment, the bill for the relief of certain drafted men. Also, a joint resolution directing the Secretary of War to take possession of the Gettysburg and Antietam National Cemetery. Also, a resolution directing the Committee on Military Affairs to inquire into the operations of the Freedmen's Bureau from May, 1865, to December, 1868. Mr. SUMNER presented a petition of Captain W. A. PARKER, of the U. S. Navy, for his restoration to the active list. He also reported a joint resolution authorizing Commander CHARLES H. BALDWIN and Lieutenant W. A. CLARK, of the United States Navy, to accept a gold medal from the King of the Netherlands, and a similar one authorizing Lieutenant W. A. CLARK, of the Navy, to accept a gold medal from the Emperor of the French. Mr. WILSON, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported adversely the joint resolution providing that no vacancies in the grades of General and Lieutenant-General in the Army, and Admiral and Vice-Admiral in the Navy shall be filled. Mr. HENDRICKS, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported, with amendment, the House joint resolution directing the sale of the steamer *Atlantic*, which was thereupon considered and passed.

THE Prussian engineers are hard at work designing fortifications. For land fortresses they retain the German polygonal system, with detached forts and caponiere ditch defence. The fault of the caponiere, a sort of bombproof blockhouse across the ditch, is that it is liable to be breached by the curved or indirect fire of the enemy. It is of no use till the besiegers actually arrive at the ditch, and it has occurred to Prussian engineers to try a movable caponiere, which can be kept in safety during bombardments, and only run out armed with Gatling guns or *mitrailleuses* when the storm is likely to be attempted. No experiments with such an apparatus have yet been tried.

THE *Berlin Correspondence* states that Wurtemberg, which has already adopted the Prussian firearms and drill, as well as the organization of the military schools, is now about to give her dragoons a similar helmet. The officers of the same Army, who had been sent to Prussia to study the military institutions of the Northern Confederation, have returned to their respective corps, and have written a very interesting report of their observations, and highly favorable to the Prussian Army.

AT the official trials of the proposed new small arm, by the Breech-loading Rifle Competition Committee, at Woolwich, one target of 2.28 was made at 1,200 yards with an Enfield Martini-Henry rifle. The rifling was a 7-groove, 1 in 22in. uniform twist, by Mr. Henry, whose bullet and lubrication were also used.

THE Senate has before it several hundred Army nominations upon which it has not yet acted. The most of these are promotions by brevet, and are undoubtedly held back because a radical change in the brevet system is contemplated. The Navy nominations have nearly all been passed upon.

ABSTRACT OF SPECIAL ORDERS

(Issued from the Adjutant-General's Office for the week ending February 8, 1869.)

Tuesday, February 2d.

On the recommendation of the regimental commander, the following transfers in the Thirty-seventh U. S. Infantry are hereby announced: First Lieutenant Charles Morris, from Company A to Company F; First Lieutenant Wells Willard, brevet captain, from Company F to Company A. Lieutenant Willard will join his proper station without delay.

By direction of the President, the disability of Martin Mahan to re-enter the Army, arising from his being dismissed the service, (Special Orders No. 389, Paragraph 41, from this office, dated November 8, 1864,) is hereby removed.

By direction of the President, the disability of Thomas D. Murrin to re-enter the Army, arising from his being dismissed the service, (General Court-martial Orders No. 60, from this office, dated August 25, 1868,) is hereby removed.

Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel J. G. Tilford, major Seventh U. S. Cavalry, will report to the Superintendent, Mounted Recruiting Service, Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, on the expiration of his present leave of absence, for duty in conducting recruits to the Department of the Missouri.

General Orders No. 5, January 16, 1869, from Headquarters Twenty-seventh U. S. Infantry, assigning Second Lieutenant Henry A. Irgens, of that regiment, to Company E, is hereby confirmed.

The resignation of Second Lieutenant John W. Hopkins, First U. S. Cavalry, has been accepted by the President, to take effect February 1, 1869, on condition that he receive no final payments until he shall have satisfied the Pay Department that he is not indebted to the United States.

On the mutual application of the officers concerned, the following transfers in the Twelfth U. S. Infantry are hereby announced: Second Lieutenant L. A. Nesmith, from Company E to Company I; Second Lieutenant R. C. Breyfogle, brevet first lieutenant, from Company I to Company E. The officers thus transferred will join their proper companies without delay.

Wednesday, February 3d.

Brevet Major P. E. Holcomb, captain U. S. Army, (retired,) is hereby authorized to draw commutation for fuel and quarters from the date he appeared before the Retiring Board, convened in New York City by Special Orders No. 258, October 28, 1868, from this office, until he received notification of the decision of the Board in his case, provided he was not furnished in kind or commutation therefor elsewhere. The time during which he was undergoing medical treatment in New York City will be deducted in making payment under this order.

By direction of the Secretary of War, leave of absence for ten months, to date from the 20th instant, with permission to go beyond sea, is hereby granted to Brevet Colonel A. H. Seward, paymaster.

Thursday, February 4th.

The Superintendent, Mounted Recruiting Service, Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, will forward, without delay, under proper charge, all disposable recruits at that post to Omaha, Nebraska, where they will be reported to the Commanding General Department of the Platte, for assignment to the Second U. S. Cavalry. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation.

The permission to delay compliance with so much of Paragraph 2, of Special Orders No. 11, January 14, 1869, from this office, granted Second Lieutenant N. Wolf, Thirty-fourth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 16, January 20, 1869, from this office, is hereby extended ten days.

First Lieutenant J. R. Mullikin, Fourth U. S. Infantry, is hereby authorized to draw commutation of quarters and fuel from December 12th to December 26, 1868, inclusive, while on duty under Special Orders No. 233, December 12, 1868, from Headquarters Department of the East; from December 27, 1868, to January 7, 1869, inclusive, while on duty under instructions from Headquarters Department of the East, of December 26, 1868; and from January 8th to January 12, 1869, inclusive, while on duty under Special Orders No. 4, January 6, 1869, from Headquarters Department of the East; provided he has not been furnished in kind or commutation therefor elsewhere.

By direction of the Secretary of War, leave of absence for six months, to take effect in April, 1869, with permission to go beyond sea, is hereby granted Brevet Major G. Von Blucher, first lieutenant Sixteenth U. S. Infantry.

By direction of the Secretary of War, the extension of leave of absence granted First Lieutenant John S. Allison, Twentieth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 15, January 19, 1869, from this office, is hereby further extended thirty days.

By direction of the Secretary of War, leave of absence for two months is hereby granted Second Lieutenant Paul Dahlgren, Third U. S. Artillery. This leave to be in lieu of part of the leave of absence to which he was entitled as a graduate of the military academy, and of which he has not taken advantage.

First Lieutenant E. L. Zalinski, Fifth U. S. Artillery, will report in person, without delay, to the Commanding General Department of the East, for orders.

Friday, February 5th.

By direction of the President, and in accordance with Section 26 of the Act of Congress approved July 28, 1866, Brevet Major W. J. L. Nicodemus, captain Twelfth U. S. Infantry, is hereby detailed as Professor of Military Science at the Western University of Pennsylvania.

Upon the recommendation of the Surgeon-General, Assistant Surgeon F. Reynolds, recently appointed, will report by letter to the Commanding General and to the Medical Director Department of the Columbia, for assignment to duty.

The extension of leave of absence granted Captain Eugene Wells, Thirtieth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 26, February 1, 1869, from this office, is hereby further extended ten days.

Upon the recommendation of the regimental commander, the following transfers in Fourth U. S. Artillery are hereby announced: First Lieutenant E. S. Smith, brevet captain, from Battery G to Company L; First Lieutenant O. M. Mitchell, from Company L to Battery G; First Lieutenant G. W. Sheldon, from Battery G to Company C; First Lieutenant C. F. Humphrey, from Company C to Battery G. The officers thus transferred will join their proper stations without delay.

Saturday, February 6th.

By direction of the Secretary of War, so much of Special Orders No. 21, February 15, 1863, from Headquarters Department of the East, as discharged Surgeon William H. Tanner, Seventeenth regiment New York State Volunteers, on account of ill health, is hereby revoked, there being no such officer in that organization.

Paragraph 2 of Special Orders No. 21, January 29, 1869, from Headquarters Department of Louisiana, appointing the following named officers aides-de-camp to Brevet Major-General R. C. Buchanan, commanding the Department, to date from January 23, 1869, is hereby confirmed: Brevet Major I. D. DeRussey, captain First U. S. Infantry; Captain George Baldey, Thirty-ninth U. S. Infantry.

Brevet Captain W. A. Coulter, second lieutenant Twelfth U. S. Infantry, is hereby relieved from duty in the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands in the State of Virginia, and will proceed without delay to join his company at Montgomery, Alabama.

Second Lieutenant Quintin Campbell, Fifth U. S. Infantry, and Sergeant Robert McPhelan, and one private of the Fifth U. S. Infantry, having performed the duties contained in paragraph 1, Special Orders No. 235, Headquarters Department of the Missouri, December 8, 1868, and Special Orders No. 17, Headquarters Fort Hays, Kansas, January 26, 1869, will return to their station at Fort Hays, Kansas. The Quartermaster's Department will furnish the necessary transportation, and the Subsistence Department commutation of rations at the usual rates.

Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel George McGown, captain U. S. Army (retired), is hereby authorized to draw commutation of fuel and quarters from the date he appeared before the Retiring Board convened at Wilmington, Delaware, by Special Orders No. 427, December 2, 1864, from this office, until he received notification of the decision of the Board in his case, provided he was not furnished in kind or commutation therefor elsewhere.

The leave of absence granted Brevet Major Frederick F. Whitehead, first lieutenant Eighteenth U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 13, January 29, 1869, from Headquarters General Recruiting Service, New York City, is hereby extended ten days.

Monday, February 8th.

Leave of absence for thirty days, commencing from the day the troops now under his command leave Fort Warren, Massachusetts, for the South, is hereby granted Major A. A. Gibson, Third U. S. Artillery.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Paragraph 1 of Special Orders No. 24, January 29, 1869, from this office, directing Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Gaines Lawson, captain Thirty-ninth U. S. Infantry, to repair to St. Louis, Missouri, and report for examination to Brevet Brigadier-General Graham, President of the Retiring Board, convened by Special Orders No. 262, November 2, 1868, from this office, is hereby revoked.

By direction of the Secretary of War, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Gaines Lawson, captain Thirty-ninth U. S. Infantry, will report in person, without delay, to Brevet Major-General Canby, commanding Fifth Military District, for assignment to duty.

Upon the recommendation of the Surgeon-General, Assistant Surgeon J. H. Patzki is hereby relieved from duty in the Department of Washington and will report to the Commanding General and to the Medical Director Fifth Military District for assignment to duty.

Permission to delay joining his regiment for ten days, to take effect upon his being relieved from recruiting service, under Special Orders No. 267, November 7, 1868, from this office, is hereby granted Captain John Lee, Fourth U. S. Cavalry.

The leave of absence granted Second Lieutenant W. Stephenson, Twenty-seventh U. S. Infantry, in Special Orders No. 11, January 16, 1869, from Headquarters Department of the Platte, is hereby extended twenty days.

Upon the recommendation of the Paymaster-General, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel H. B. Reese, paymaster, will proceed, without unnecessary delay, to New York City, and report to Brevet Brigadier-General T. J. Leslie, chief paymaster pay district of New York, for assignment to duty in his district.

ORDERS AND INSTRUCTIONS TO ORDNANCE OFFICERS—DECEMBER, 1868.

ORDNANCE OFFICE, WAR DEPARTMENT,)
WASHINGTON, December 31, 1868.

The following memorandum of orders and instructions relating to officers of the Ordnance Department, issued during the month of December, 1868, is communicated for the information of the Corps:

J. T. TREADWELL,

Bvt. Lt.-Col. and Maj. Ordnance in Charge of Bureau. Brevet Major-General George D. Ramsay. Ordered to Fort Delaware, Delaware, to witness experimental firing at that post, December 3, 1868, and on the completion of this duty, to return to his proper station. S. O. No. 286, A. G. O., December 1, 1868.

Brevet Brigadier-General William Maynadier. Directed to proceed to Savannah, Georgia, for the purpose of disabling some heavy guns in that place and vicinity, and after the performance of this duty, to return to his station at Washington, D. C. Order Brevet Lieutenant-Col. Treadwell, in charge of Ordnance Bureau, December 1, 1868.

Brevet Brigadier-General T. J. Rodman. Directed to proceed to Fort Delaware, Delaware, for the purpose of witnessing experimental firing at that post by the Engineer Department; thence to proceed to New York City

on business connected with the Rock Island Arsenal, and after completing this duty, to return to Washington, D. C. Order Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Treadwell, in charge of Ordnance Bureau, December 2, 1868.

Brevet Colonel Silas Crispin. Directed to proceed to Fort Delaware, Delaware, for the purpose of witnessing experimental firing at that post by the Engineer Department; then to proceed to New York City on business requiring his personal attention at the New York Agency; after which to return to Washington, D. C. Order Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Treadwell, in charge of Ordnance Bureau, December 2, 1868.

Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel D. W. Flagler. Directed to proceed to Fort Delaware, Delaware, for the purpose of witnessing experimental firing at that post by the Engineer Department; then to proceed to Springfield, Massachusetts, to procure machinery for the Augusta Arsenal; after which to return to Washington, D. C. Order Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Treadwell, in charge of Ordnance Bureau, December 2, 1868.

Major Theo. Edson. Directed to proceed to Fort Delaware, Delaware, to witness experimental firing at that post by the Engineer Department; after which to return to Washington, D. C. Order Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Treadwell, in charge of Ordnance Bureau, December 2, 1868.

Brevet Brigadier-General C. P. Kingsbury. Directed to send Lieutenant A. L. Varney to Kennebec Arsenal to take charge of that post for a few days, in the absence of Colonel Buel. Order Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Treadwell, in charge of Ordnance Bureau, December 8, 1868.

Brevet Colonel James G. Benton. Directed to return to his post at the Springfield Armory, and resume command until notified by telegraph that his presence is required by the Dyer Court of Inquiry. Order Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Treadwell, in charge of Ordnance Bureau, December 10, 1868.

Brevet Brigadier-General T. J. Rodman. Directed to return to his post at Rock Island Arsenal and resume command until notified by telegraph that his presence is required by the Dyer Court of Inquiry. Order Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Treadwell, in charge of Ordnance Bureau, December 10, 1868.

Brevet Colonel T. G. Baylor. Directed to return to his command at Fort Monroe Arsenal and report in person to the Dyer Court of Inquiry on the morning of January 11, 1869, unless otherwise ordered. Order Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Treadwell, in charge of Ordnance Bureau, December 12, 1868.

Major Theo. Edson. Directed to return to his station at Rock Island Arsenal and report in person to the Dyer Court of Inquiry on the morning of January 11, 1869, unless otherwise ordered. Order Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Treadwell, in charge of Ordnance Bureau, December 12, 1868.

Brevet Major W. S. Beebe. Granted leave of absence for twenty days from December 15, 1868. Order Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Treadwell, in charge of Ordnance Bureau, December 12, 1868.

Captain Clifton Comly. Granted leave of absence for twenty days. Order Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Treadwell, in charge of Ordnance Bureau, December 14, 1868.

Brevet Colonel T. G. Baylor. Directed to order Brevet Captain M. L. Poland to proceed to Rock Island Arsenal, he having been assigned to duty at that post by S. O. No. 234, A. G. O., 1868. Order Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Treadwell, in charge of Ordnance Bureau, December 16, 1868.

Lieutenant Henry Metcalfe. Directed to report in person at the Ordnance Office upon expiration of his leave of absence. Order Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Treadwell, in charge of Ordnance Bureau, December 21, 1868.

Brevet Major John R. Edie. Assigned, temporarily, to duty in the Ordnance Office, to date from December 18, 1868. S. O. No. 304, A. G. O., December 22, 1868.

Captain L. S. Babbitt. Orders No. 39, current series, from Headquarters Department of Columbia, announcing him as aide-de-camp on staff of Brevet Major-General Commanding, to date from November 1, 1868, confirmed. S. O. No. 305, A. G. O., December 23, 1868.

Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel D. W. Flagler. Directed to return to his station at Augusta Arsenal after having performed the duty for which he was ordered to Springfield, instead of reporting in Washington, D. C., as directed by order of 2d instant. Order Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Treadwell, in charge of Ordnance Bureau, December 24, 1868.

Brevet Major John R. Edie. Directed to report to Major-General Sheridan, commanding Department of the Missouri, for the purpose of inspecting Spencer carbine ammunition, and after the completion of this duty, to report in person at the Ordnance Office. Order Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel Treadwell, in charge of Ordnance Bureau, December 26, 1868.

Brevet Captain Charles F. Rockwell. Died at Washington, D. C., November 13, 1868.

AMONG some antique curiosities lately unearthed at Hildesheim in Germany, are several elegant cups, on which the name Lucius Manlius Bochi is to be clearly made out, though slightly obliterated. Next is found M. AVR. C., which may indicate (according to Sauppe) M(arcus) Aur(elius) C(otta), though Schöne rightly asks why not M(arcus) Aur(unculeus) C(elester) as well? Two further abbreviations are MARS and SH; the former, since there is no "Christian" name to it—a thing very unusual in the Augustan period—perhaps a woman's name, say Marsenia, or Marsidia, the latter Sestia Hospita or Servilia Hilara. All these names, however, seem rather to belong to the manufacturers than to the owner. The weights are given very accurately, and in such a manner that the "Abargento," or slave who had the charge of the silver, could at once detect the smallest deficiency; all the pieces belonging to one set—cups, goblets, plates, etc.—bearing the same sign, and indicating not only their individual weight, but that of the set. One of the most difficult questions in the case is, how did these things get into the Galgenberg, near Hildesheim? One supposition is that it was part of the spoil after the defeat of Varus by Arminius.

AB-SARA-KA, HOME OF THE CROWS.

UNDER the title of *Ab-sa-ra-ka, Home of the Crows*, an officer's wife (Mrs. Carrington) has gathered together in an interesting volume published by Lippincott & Co., her experience on the Plains during the occupation of the new route to Virginia City, Montana, 1866-'67, and the Indian hostility thereto, with outlines of the natural features and resources of the land, tables of distances, maps, and other aids to the traveller, gathered from observation and other reliable sources. As the best way of giving an idea of the character of this exceedingly interesting work, we condense from it the following account of the *Ab-sa-ra-ka*:

Absaraka, in the language of the Crow Indians, translated, Home of the Crows, was once the field of their proudest successes.

The fertile basins of the Yellowstone, Big Horn, and Tongue rivers were enlivened by the presence of their many villages; and in the early days of Bridger and Beckwith, the Crow Indians accumulated considerable wealth by a prolific trade in pelts and dressed furs, which those veteran trappers and frontiersmen delivered for them at St. Louis and other border depots for Indian commerce.

Partially girt in by the Big Horn and Panther Mountains, yet roaming at will, they were masters of a region of country which has no peer in its exhaustless game resources, and is rarely surpassed in its production of wild fruits, grasses, and cereals; while its natural scenery made up of snowy crests, pine-clad slopes and summits, crystal waters, and luxuriant vales, certainly has no rival in our great sisterhood of States.

Aided by a portion of the Arrapahoes, Blackfeet, and Gros Ventres of the Prairie, popularly known as the Big Bellies, the Sioux succeeded in occupying the choice valleys of the lower Big Horn and Tongue rivers, and still held them in comparative independence when the expedition of 1866, sent to open the new route to Virginia City, forced them to accept the challenge of the white man for the future possession of their stolen dwelling-place.

The Crows fell back of the Yellowstone, though still operating eastward as far as the west bank of Big Horn River; and a few attempted something like local improvement, imitating the Flat Heads, who, though few in numbers, were not the less energetic, and seemed to be really desirous of gaining some affinity with the ideas and civilization of the whites. With all these changes and the continued aggression of the Sioux, the Crows maintained their passion for their old and their favorite home.

The white man had given it no distinctive name, and had scarcely trespassed upon its soil. Farther west, he had occupied the Madison and Jefferson branches and the headwaters of the Missouri. Flourishing towns and cities had been located, and the Indians, who had so long been driven westward, were now crowded back upon the Yellowstone and Big Horn; so that the Crows must soon renew their active antagonism with their old plunderers or seek other fields or methods of life.

These same Crow Indians, in addition to their natural title to the land, maintain to this day, the proud claim never to have killed a white man but in self-defence. All their intercourse in 1866, and their relations in 1867, combine to show the integrity of their friendship and the truth of their protestations.

Their very enemies concede to them the rightful title to the territory so long struggled for. At a formal council held at Fort Phillip Kearney in July, 1866, the following question was addressed to Black Horse:

"Why do the Sioux and Cheyennes claim the land which belongs to the Crows?"

Black Horse, The Wolf that Lies Down, Red Arm, and Dull Knife promptly answered:

"The Sioux helped us. We stole the hunting grounds of the Crows because they were the best. The white man is along the great waters, and we wanted more room. We fight the Crows because they will not take half and give us peace with the other half."

Absaraka is therefore, in fact, as the Crows have fondly named that whole region (absurdly styled Wyoming by some), the "Home of the Crows."

Bound to it by sacred legends; endeared as it is by years of occupation and warring conflicts for its repose; pressed by the whites from the west, and now approached from the east, yet restricted to the use of the upper Yellowstone and west bank of the Big Horn rivers, the Crows still maintain their rightful title, and ask of the white man that he acknowledge it.

No less firmly do they maintain inviolate their solemn faith once pledged to the white man, and they look to his advent in sufficient numbers, as the signal of their own deliverance and the destruction of their old enemies the Sioux.

There is another fact which appeals strongly to other sentiments than those that favor simple justice. Among all the tribes of the North-west, the Crow Indian stands first in manliness and physical perfection.

While they alone have the title to negotiate the right of way for the new Virginia City road, independently of its occupation by the Sioux and their allies, they also have pride of race and nation. They can be trusted as friends within its boundaries whenever they are treated with the consideration they deserve. Would white men do more?

The Crows lost possession by robbery. Their enemies have become the white man's enemy. Their enemies have ignored treaty obligations, have despised all terms of compromise or honorable warfare, and defy the Crows and white man alike.

To the Crow, therefore, should be tendered support and friendship. Whatever the result as to the possession of the soil, it is as wicked to give it to the Sioux, for fear of his enmity, as it is to rob the Crows, if they wish to retain or jointly enjoy it.

Above all, the land should bear its true name, and

thus give to posterity some index to its past history and the issues and struggles which have preceded its use by the white man. Let it be known, whether as Territory, State, or Indian Reservation, as *Absaraka, Home of the Crows*.

The soil of the valleys is, in the main, a rich, deep loam, well adapted for vegetables, and in that climate, for cereals; but alternate late and early frosts seem combined to refuse to *cereals* a fair chance with other grain, while on the other hand, barley, so grateful to mules, could seek no better region for its best development.

While rain, other than the dripping skirts of some mountain shower, is rare as diamonds, the numberless dashing streams, tributary to the great flows, present such ready means of irrigation that small labor and expense would apply them to all desired uses. Besides this, the deep snows of the winter season long leave the effects of their fertilizing agency.

The climate is invigorating and healthful. There is no dew; and sickness is so rare, that for days in succession, during the constant labor and exposure of 1866, no soldiers attended the stated daily sick call, and the hospital itself was monopolized by cases of surgery only.

The summer temperature rarely exceeds ninety, and the nights are always cool and refreshing. Few take cold; and from July 15, 1866, to January 15, 1867, the barometer changed from fair, or very dry, only at the advent of winds sweeping from the snow mountains, and at one storm of mixed rain and snow, near the date of the autumnal equinox.

The antipathy of the Indian to its occupation by the white man is very intense and bitter. The rattle of the mower, the whistle of the steam saw-mill, the felling of timber, the quick rise of stockade and substantial warehouses and quarters, are such sure signs of permanent possession, that they lose no opportunity to steal or kill when they can do so with comparative impunity. Yet the game still clings to its favorite haunts, and the Indian must press upon the steps of the white man or lose all hopes of future independence.

The Big Horn River and its branches, as well as the streams beyond, are plentifully supplied with trout, the mountain pike, and other valuable fish, and thus complete the complement of supplies with which the country is so generously provided.

The mineral field imparts some of its peculiar contributions to the stores of *Absaraka*. Gold color is given in nearly all the streams, as already once indicated.

Coal is *exhaustless*. Limestone is attainable from the mountain, although somewhat difficult of transportation at present. Clay is abundant, and of such quality as to make a firm plaster coating upon simple exposure to the sun.

While the discoloration of the red buttes has been traced to the presence of iron, and it is also found in many of the sands, no ores have yet been exposed, nor have indications been made of its presence in any available supply. All other building materials are plentiful, and the tall pines furnish clear lumber of any required length or breadth, without a knot or blemish to mar their uniformity or beauty.

The nights in *Absaraka* were peculiarly beautiful when cloudless. The rarity of the atmosphere gave full play to the star-beams, and it seemed as if there were twice as many as in any firmament elsewhere.

Their first appearance was often mistaken for Indian signal fires, as they rose above the horizon, like the sun or moon, having orbs as marked and light as brilliant as when they attained the zenith. In the glory of the full moon the snow-clad mountains shone as silver; while the deep roar of the cascades of Big Piney Fork was hardly less grateful to the wakeful soul than its lullaby was soothing to the weary.

August and November contributed their aerolites and proper share of meteors, and the blazing sky-path of these eccentric visitors shone fresh and clear after the celestial traveller had exploded itself, or had been otherwise disposed of under the laws of its being or the programme of the meteorologist and astronomer. Other nights were such as *Aeneas* knew when the gods were angry, or Odin permitted when the storm-king was riding in state or in vengeance. Then, every mountain gorge had its own blast, and every gulch, ravine, and valley had its fitful and unruly current. Tent flies took the proportions and direction of inflated balloons, and the snapping and flapping was suggestive of sky for the roofing and all out-doors for the inclosure of the habitation we dwelt in.

While the garrison were in tents few ladies slept soundly; and officers and men alike threw themselves down for repose as if expecting each moment a summons to duty. Beyond the general guard lines, the pickets were thrown out in several directions to watch for the approach of Indians; and as each relief went out it changed its station, so that enemies who knew the former position of the detail could not know its place two hours afterward. Scarcely had the post been located, when these night visitations became frequent.

Any life on the Plains is a good school, and its practical suggestions take all the starch and false pride as to work completely out of the unfortunate human creature who expects the spoon to be carried to the mouth by attendants, and a metropolitan table to be spread by the hands of a striker.

Primitive ways are to be learned; but the tent becomes neat and genteel, and the taste of its arrangement and adornment gives capital hints to the mind of the beauty of patience, and especially confirms the sacred maxim, that content with godliness is great gain.

The snapping of a tent-pole at midnight under three feet of snow; the blaze of the canvas, as the ambitious fire commissions the red-hot pipe to unroof your earthly tabernacle, at no small risk to bedding and trunks; the pretty little drifts that gracefully slip through the closely drawn entrance and sprinkle your bed, your furniture, and your wardrobe, all afford change and excitement, and not un seldom bring occasion to begin housekeeping anew. The frozen-up kettles, pots, and buckets demand recognition; while the milk, the cream, and the butter are incentives to new branches of industry and skill.

So when the houses are used, one house will differ from another house in glory. The adobe, with its unplastered surface, and the dropping of dirt from the earth-covered roof, is one variety; and the log-cabin is another variety; either of which involves much ingenuity, not to say genius, as the mind struggles to give them neatness and comfort. Yet either of these soon becomes home; and its protection from summer's heat and winter's cold is often more grateful and complete than more pretending edifices of wood or brick. It is indeed not always easy to adapt a carpet to dirt floors, or the changing sizes of army habitations; nor is it pleasant to break up and begin housekeeping several times a year. Always there is something you cannot carry with you, something which must be sold or given away. Always some favorite chair is broken and crockery mysteriously disappears, requiring new outlay at prices beyond reason, and trying the patience and temper by sound and certain tests. Custom familiarizes the different styles, shapes, and colors of plates and dishes as they are replenished at different times and places; but while the tin-cup and plate are *splendid* on the march, they do not come up to the ideal of comeliness and elegance in preparation for a reception or dinner party given to strangers.

When, after a successful trip of six hundred miles, our two cows were driven away one Sunday afternoon by some very mean Indians, there ensued another of those episodes which distract the mind and mar all plans as to butter and cream for cake and for coffee. The wolves took our nice turkey hen just as she was ready to give us a brood of little turkeys; while half of our young chickens in that bracing climate gaped themselves to death. Yet, with all these sacrifices and losses from repeated change, there were real cosy times in tents, houses, or in cabins. The good nature and good sense of Uncle Samuel had furnished canned provisions, greatly to our personal comfort and pecuniary convenience; but fresh vegetables were most precious and rare. A few potatoes from Bozeman City, sent with the regards of Brevet Lieutenant Colonel Kinney, were a great treat; and Major Almstedt, paymaster, was good enough to spare a half cabbage and eleven onions, through one of his trips, to astonish the palate and minister to a craving for something novel from the United States. Ingenuity was tasked to invent new cookery for coze oysters and other savory preserved edibles; and wild plums, gooseberries, currants, grapes and cherries furnished a preserve *à la* quite palatable and natural.

Wild meats would have been abundant; but the stringent Indian game laws of that country treated all hunting by the white man as poaching, and the preserves were skilfully guarded, to cut off so far as possible every impulse to trespass.

Evenings had their readings, their games and quiet quadrilles. Music was a never-failing relief for body and mind; and the interchange of patterns, books and receipts kept up material for new industry and new themes for deliberation or chit-chat. Sickness, though rare, brought its sympathies, and its little interchange of good things and delicacies; and with the occasional pressure of unsatisfied longings there was developed a peculiarly apt illustration of the idea that people really don't want much of anything, and the Scripture was confirmed that "a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of what a man possesseth."

Change and frequent parting brought those peculiar separations that nowhere else are so tender as in Army life on the frontier. Captain Haymond, Lieutenants Plisterer and D'Isay left us for recruiting service only two weeks after we reached our destination; and, subsequently, Lieutenant Adair and Lieutenant Bisbee, wife and child. Others came, and quite a coterie shared in the round of evening sociables, which relieved the tension of continual excitement, and brought into being some features similar in kind to those of bygone times at home.

Nor was the Sabbath neglected. Each new building that was available, in turn became our sanctuary, as there was not time to build exclusively for chapel purposes. The sutler's store, the commissary building, company headquarters, and the band pavilion of evergreens successively shared the honor. The string band accompanied the voices, and, far away from the church-going bell and the heaven-directing spires, the praise of God was sung and Divine help implored. Few are the sanctuaries in civilized States where the "Magnificat," "Gloria in Excelsis," "There is a light in the window," "Old Hundred," and "Coronation," were supported by a better orchestra or sung with more spirit. The garrison itself had its own occasional social gatherings; and such was the general sobriety, the patient obedience and thorough absorption of the men in their plans of their commander, that drunkenness was rare and profanity less than usual. The stringent orders against verbal or personal abuse, the public reprimand administered on one occasion, and the governing principle that while obedience must be cheerful and immediate, the rights of a soldier as a man must be regarded, inspired the men with confidence and new ambition to fulfil their full measure of duty.

AN officer on the English screw-frigate *Topaze*, writing from Valparaiso about the 1st of last December, gives the following extract from the log: "We found here the *Mutine* and *Reindeer*, also the French Admiral in a wooden frigate of about 3,200 tons, the *Astree*, carrying only sixteen guns, twelve of them being 70-pounders on her main deck—a fine looking frigate, but not so healthy looking at ourselves. I must not forget to tell you that the French Admiral in the *Astree* ran on shore in the Straits of Magellan on a rock not marked in the chart. She has damaged herself a good deal, making six inches of water an hour. She is to be docked in the Callao floating dock, if it will take her."

LEAVE of absence for twenty days, based on surgeon's certificate of disability, with permission to go beyond the limits of the Department, has been granted to First Lieutenant Chas. B. Clark, Twentieth Infantry.

THE NATIONAL GUARD.

THE OLD GUARD.

"The Old Guard die, but never surrender."

Twenty-five or thirty years since, when the metropolis was far from attaining its present magnitude, albeit it was even then a magnificent and noble emporium of wealth and fashion, with every promise of its present grandeur and affluence, the Light Guard and City Guard, two famous flank companies, were the pet and pride of Gotham. The former was commanded by Edward Vincent, the latter by William M. McArdle. Both corps contained in their ranks the first young men of the city, those who moved in select and fashionable society, and upon their rolls were names representing many of our proudest Knickerbocker families.

The uniforms of both were a brilliant scarlet, and each wore the bear-skin cap. When they paraded it was with very full ranks, and the best martial music the city afforded. Their armories were models of elegance and neatness, in their fitting up and surroundings resembling more a crack club-room than a military headquarters. Perhaps some of our readers may remember the elegant Light Guard armory at the Apollo (then in Broadway near Canal street) and afterward for many years at Lafayette Hall. The City Guard had their armory at Niblo's Garden, then the favorite resort of fashionable New York. This armory was not only the pride of the company, but military gentlemen of other places always made a point of visiting it while sojourning here. Their meeting-room, adjoining the armory, was furnished handsomely, and with its first-class piano, and C. G. Glee Club gathered around it, offered attractions not to be despised to the members and their guests. If, perchance, anyone does so recall either the Light Guard or City Guard's tasty drill-rooms, to which we have so hurriedly alluded, he must also remember pleasant youthful faces, genial and gentlemanly companions, and the warm-hearted friendships with which the recollection is associated—too many of them now, alas, are only a memory.

O whither have they fled,
Those spirits kind and warm,
That, numbered with the dead,
Have nobly braved the storm?

The dear departed, gone before
To that unknown and silent shore,
Sure we shall meet as heretofore,
Some summer morning.

We have alluded to the parading strength of each corps, and it was truly a pleasing spectacle to look at either command upon an anniversary or gala-day. Then their four sections, extending from curb to curb, would march proudly through Broadway, eliciting universal praise. An intense rivalry pervaded the ranks of each, but it was an honest and healthful rivalry, and both were unequalled military organizations. On the delights and enjoyments of their encampments at Saratoga, Long Branch, Bridgeport, Glen Cove, etc., it is idle to dwell, as they have long since passed into the military reminiscences of every veteran member. Of their visits to Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Washington, Portland and Montreal, where their numbers, beauty of equipment and military bearing reflected lasting credit upon our city, we can only make mention; and of their unsurpassed receptions at the Boston Light Infantry (Tigers), Boston City Guard, New England Guard, Providence Light Infantry, Independent Greys of Baltimore, Savannah Blues, and other well known military bodies, we cannot at the instant call to mind, it will suffice to write that they were taken care of with an open-handed Knickerbocker hospitality which made every hour of their visit to New York a happy and pleasant memory. This retrospect would be incomplete without an allusion to their annual soirees, which were the boast of all New Yorkers who acknowledged any fealty to the fascinations and blandishments of Terpsichore. On these gala-nights the wealth, beauty and refinement of the city graced the old City Hotel, Niblo's Garden and the Academy of Music, assembling en masse to compliment and honor the gallant members of both organizations.

They were nights of gorgeous revel,
Wreaths, dance, light and life.

For several years past, at intervals, efforts have been made to organize the veteran members of the Light Guard and City Guard, particularly those who were in service under Captains Vincent and McArdle. These efforts were somewhat desultory and, failing to accomplish their object, were abandoned. But in the winter of 1857 and 1858 Street Commissioner George W. McLean, Josiah Hedden, Henry R. McMurray, E. W. Burr, D. H. Burdett, Henry Spear, W. G. Tompkins, L. D. Bulkley, Henry Molten, John A. Chassman, and a few others, resolved to make another effort to organize the old members of the two corps. An act of incorporation was drawn up by Messrs. McLean and Hedden, and the Hon. William M. Tweed introduced the bill to his brother members of the Senate on the 2d April, 1858. It was signed by Governor Fenton on the 23d April, and thus the Old Guard, which will ere long become the pride of the citizen soldiery of the Empire State, came into being. Formed for ennobling and charitable objects, and having many of our most respectable and influential citizens—those who enjoy the respect and confidence of the entire community—upon its roll, it must be as its founders intend and desire. *Erie Perpetua.*

Section 2 of its charter explains in brief the praiseworthy aim and purpose of the Old Guard: "The objects of the corporation are, to afford pecuniary relief to indigent or reduced members, and their widows and children; to promote social union and fellowship, and preserve and continue the recollection of service in the Light Guard and City Guard." To Senator Tweed every member of the association ought to feel greatly indebted, as but for his untiring personal efforts in its behalf, both in the Senate and Assembly, introduced as it was at so late a period of the session, the Old Guard Charter could not have passed. After its incorporation the corporators held a number of meetings, from May until December, some of them at the Street Commissioner's office, at the Manhattan Club, at Kilduff's, and at the Astor House. At these meetings an excellent constitution and by-laws were prepared, a suitable board of management organized, and other necessary business transacted for the welfare and prosperity of the body. At all of these meetings Mr. G. W. McLean was called to the chair, and it is but simple justice to record the fact that this gentleman has, from the very inception of the Old Guard, been its leading spirit, devoted advocate and persevering worker. When a quorum failed to attend one meeting he would immediately issue a call for another, and when a committee neglected to report or desponded of accomplishing an important object, his example, word and action encouraged them to successful endeavor, with the brave motto of *Nil Desperandum*. He is now, as he ought to be, the civic and military head of the organization, with whose institution and history his name is inseparably identified.

It was determined that the year of its charter should not pass without a meeting of the rank and file. In accordance with the call, it was held at the Astor House on Tuesday evening, December

22, 1868, President McLean in the chair. At this meeting the constitution and by-laws were adopted, various important committees appointed, and the board of officers as recommended by a committee of the incorporators were unanimously indorsed. The following is a list of the officers: Major, George W. McLean; First Captain, Charles A. Stetson, Sr.; Second Captain, E. W. Burr; Quartermaster, M. A. Wheelock; Paymaster, George Brady; Surgeon, A. B. Mott; First Lieutenants, David D. Hart, Lewis D. Bulkley; Second Lieutenants, Henry Spear, Daniel H. Burdett; Third Lieutenants, Edward L. Hedden, William E. Laimbeer, Jr.; Fourth Lieutenants, James Davis, Jr., Henry R. David. The meeting proved a gratifying one in every respect, and the reunion between the old members, many of whom had not met for years, was pleasant in the extreme. After the business of the evening was transacted the Old Guard participated in the generous hospitality of Mr. Charles A. Stetson, Sr., during which many pleasant memories of youthful military days were revived in all their pristine fervor. With the joys of the occasion came also sad memories of those who had long since been summoned hence, and in their narrow homes were peacefully awaiting the last reveille.

Those fond recollections, so faithfully cherished,
Of days that went happily by;
Of friends and of pleasures that long ago perished,
Sometimes cause a tear and a sigh.

The second meeting was held at the Astor House on Thursday evening, January 14, 1869, the president in the chair. There was a full attendance of members, who exhibited the proper spirit and enthusiasm for the advancement of the association. Committees were appointed on the amendment of the charter, on the uniform, and on the propriety of giving a ball. The anniversary of the organization was voted to be the 23d April, the day on which its charter was granted by the Legislature. It was also carried to meet quarterly, the initiation fee was placed at ten dollars and the monthly dues one dollar. In the course of some remarks President McLean introduced a proposition, which met the earnest and hearty approval of all present, and which will do more to perpetuate the Old Guard than anything yet acted upon by them. It was to amend the constitution so that a son of a deceased member in good standing, upon obtaining his majority, may be eligible for membership, as prescribed in the constitution. Upon adjourning, an hour or two was whiled rapidly away in the usual social enjoyments.

The third meeting was held at the Astor House, on Thursday evening, January 28th, and was marked by the attendance of many who had not previously reported for duty. Mr. Josiah Hedden, chairman of the committee on the amendment of the charter, reported it inexpedient to make any immediate alteration, and suggested the propriety of postponing further action until the Old Guard itself had been longer in existence. The matter was therefore laid upon the table temporarily. The committee on uniform had three elegant specimens in the room, all of them being made of scarlet cloth, which was the first color worn by the Light Guard and City Guard. Mr. John J. Bylandt appeared in the red and white coat, white cross-belts, and blue pants, worn by the Old City Guard in 1841 and 1842; Mr. Daniel H. Burdett wore a scarlet coat, with black cloth and gold facings; black pants, with red and gold stripe; white belts, black and gold shoulder knots. These uniforms were made by Messrs. James A. Clark & Son. The third uniform, made by Messrs. Hindhaugh & Co., consisted of a scarlet coat, trimmed with mazarine blue cloth and gold lace; black patent-leather belts; gold and red epaulettes; pants of mazarine blue, with scarlet and gold stripe. This was worn by Mr. James A. Clark. All of them were rich and beautiful, and either of them would make a splendid and showy costume, and one befitting the corps. After some little discussion the matter was adjourned until the next meeting.

The ball committee reported in favor of giving one, and it will take place on Tuesday evening, April 6th, at the Academy of Music. Tickets \$5. The ball committee consists of the following gentlemen: Messrs. George W. McLean, chairman; Henry Spear, W. G. Tompkins, B. G. Barney, James Davis, Jr., M. A. Wheelock, Chas. A. Stetson, Jr., J. T. Hatfield, Theodore Moss, Henry R. McMurray, James A. Clark, Dr. A. B. Mott, Daniel A. Mathews, David M. Henriques, John J. Bylandt, S. M. Blatchford, J. E. Cosart, William S. Fogg, Wood Gibson, Jr., Charles E. Brown.

We have thus given the reader a brief record of the Old Guard. Formed for high toned objects and motives, and numbering in its ranks the veteran and select material of the two corps, it cannot but elevate the standard of our city militia, which we are well aware is already a high one; so much so, that for any young man to claim membership of the First division New York State Militia, is to boast of an enrolment in the ranks of the best equipped, finest disciplined and most thoroughly organized volunteer soldiery of the United States.

The founders of the Old Guard have also thought that the lapse of even a score or more of years ought not to sunder, permanently, the friendships and associations of life's morning; but that its noon and evening may be rendered none the less happy and enjoyable by an occasional renewal of that warm feeling of friendship, sincere good fellowship and *esprit de corps*, which formed the brightest characteristic of both the Light Guard and City Guard.

Yet what binds us friend to friend,
But that soul with soul can blend;
Soul-like were those hours of yore,
Let us walk in soul once more!

TWENTY THIRD REGIMENT.—Battalion drills of this regiment are ordered by Colonel Ward as follows: Companies A, B, E, G and I on Tuesday evenings, February 16th and 23d; Companies C, D, F, H and K on Friday evenings, February 19th and 26th. Fine for non-attendance, \$5. These drills being for instruction no spectators will be allowed. The non-commissioned staff, first sergeants and sergeants of this command will assemble at the armory, in fatigue uniform, on Saturday evening, February 13th, at 8 o'clock, for instruction. The commandant having observed at former parades the delay in the formation of some of the companies, the senior non-commissioned officer present in each company is ordered to give the command "Fall in" the instant the assembly ceases to be sounded. Commandants of companies are ordered to see that this order is strictly carried out.

An Examining Board is ordered to convene at the armory on Monday evening, February 8th, and adjourn from time to time as may be necessary. The following officers are detailed as members of the board: Lieutenant-Colonel S. H. Farnham, Major C. E. Goldthwait, Brevet Captain and Adjutant J. G. Gregory. The board will institute a thorough examination into the capacity, attainments, general fitness for the service, and efficiency of all persons holding or who may be hereafter elected to positions as company non-commissioned officers. Should the decision of said board be adverse the commandant will revoke, or refuse to issue a warrant to such persons. The non-commissioned staff (including general guides), first

sergeants and sergeants, are also ordered to report for examination to the Examining Board above constituted, at the armory (a fatigue uniform), on Thursday evening, March 4th, at 8 o'clock.

The button adopted by this regiment is ordered as part of the fatigue uniform. Corporal Franklin Colt has been elected to be second lieutenant, vice Hogns, promoted, to rank from November 5, 1868; Second Lieutenant H. S. Manning to be first lieutenant, vice Buncker, promoted, to rank from January 4th; First Lieutenant H. Herbert Hogns to be captain, vice Gregory, resigned, to rank from January 12th; First Sergeant Wm. S. Leaman to be first lieutenant, vice Hogns, promoted, to rank from January 12th; Captain Charles E. Goldthwait to be major, vice Chapman, promoted, to rank from January 18th. First Lieutenant and Adjutant James G. Gregory has been appointed captain by brevet, to date from December 21, 1868.

In a letter addressed to Colonel Ward, Brevet Captain and Adjutant James G. Gregory says: "COLONEL.—Believing that nothing shows a well organized regiment more than the correctness of its records, I have the honor to present the regiment with a gold medal to be worn one year by the first sergeant of the company which shall be adjudged annually to have the best record at the regimental headquarters for neatness, correctness and promptness in making out and forwarding all returns, reports, correspondence, etc. The field officers to be the judges, and make the award the first week in January of each year. The presentation to take place at the first battalion drill thereafter." Captain Gregory's offer has been accepted, and his proposition will be carried out in accordance with his wishes.

An inspection, in full dress uniforms, of the members of Company A, of this regiment, was held at the regimental armory on the 27th ult., under the supervision of Colonel R. C. Ward. The members turned out some forty strong, and made a handsome show. At the conclusion of a short drill, in which the men showed marked proficiency, Private Cowing stepped forward, and in a happy manner, on behalf of the company, presented Captain D. W. Van Ingen, the commandant of the company, with an elegant gold watch and chain as an expression of the esteem in which he is held in the company by its members. The recipient of the elegant token was too much taken by surprise to make an elaborate reply, and in few words thanked the members for their kind gift. Company A is one of the largest companies in the regiment, and is rapidly improving in discipline. The interesting affair was witnessed by a number of lady and gentlemen friends of the regiment. Among the latter were Lieutenant-Colonel Farnham, Major Goldthwait, Lieutenant Story, and others of the regiment; Colonel Barnard, ex-Colonel Everdell and ex-Captain Washburn.

TWELFTH INFANTRY.—The State Arsenal being pronounced to be at present in an unsafe condition and awaiting repairs, the wing drill of this regiment ordered for February 5th and 8th are countermanded, but the order for division drills during the week commencing February 15th will continue in force. The several companies of this command will assemble in chasseur uniform, with leggings, for drill and instruction, at the regimental armory, corner of Fourth street and Broadway, as follows: Companies A, C and D, on Tuesday evening, February 9th; Companies F, H and K, on Wednesday evening, February 10th; Companies G and I, on Thursday evening, February 11th; Companies B and E, on Friday evening, February 12th.

FIFTH REGIMENT.—Colonel Meyer has ordered the commissioned officers of this regiment to assemble, in fatigue dress, at the armory of this regiment, Nos. 156 to 160 Hester street, for drill and instruction, on Tuesday, the 16th day of February, and Wednesday, the 24th day of February, at 7½ o'clock p. m. The officers and non-commissioned officers of this regiment are hereby ordered to assemble, in fatigue dress, at the same place, for drill and instruction, March 5th, 16th and 29th, at the same hour. Line will be formed by the adjutant at 8 o'clock. The following division drills will take place at the armory during the month of March: Companies B and I, the 17th; Companies D and H, the 18th; Companies A and E, the 19th; Companies C and G, the 22d; Companies F and K, the 23d. Roll call at 7½ o'clock. Line to be formed by Sergeant-Major Adam Doms (who will act as adjutant), at 8 o'clock p. m. These drills will be superintended by Lieutenant-Colonel Joseph Hillenbrand, or Captain L. G. Theodore Bruer, who will act as major until further orders. Company commanders are ordered to instruct their respective companies in the manual of arms, loading and firing, at the company drills. On account of the State Arsenal being out of order wing drills will not take place until further orders. Second Lieutenant William Ross, of Company K, has been duly elected and commissioned. At the annual meeting of the Board of Officers of this regiment, held at the armory on Monday evening, January 25th, the following officers were elected: Adjutant Philip F. Smith, secretary; Captain Henry Scharch, treasurer; Surgeon William Thurman, Captain Henry Hamann and Second Lieutenant B. Hufnagel, finance committee; Captain L. G. Theodore Bruer, Captain Henry Kloeber and First Lieutenant Jacob Eldt, armory committee. First Lieutenant Gustavus Wellenkamp was elected delegate for three years to the Regimental Life Insurance Association. All company drills which fall upon the evenings above designated are countermanded. The colonel commanding advises the officers and all members of this regiment to become members of the Regimental Life Insurance Association, as the benefit derived therefrom is well worth the small payment required to be a member thereof. A shooting gallery for target practice has been established at the armory for the use of the members of this regiment.

The thirty-third annual ball of Company A, Captain John E. Mayer, took place at the Germania Assembly Rooms on Wednesday evening, the 10th inst. It was a fancy dress ball, and was very largely attended. The room was handsomely decorated. Music was furnished by the regimental band, and everybody had a good time. Among the guests were General Burger and staff; General Seebach, of Governor Hoffman's staff; General Bendix, of the Third Infantry; Colonel Brinker and Majors Madden and Schultz, of the First Cavalry; Captain Marquardt, of General Burger's staff, and Captain Lausen and Lieutenant Martins, of the Fifth regiment. The different committees were in charge of Captain Meyer, First Lieutenant Meyer, Second Lieutenant Barmeister and ex-Lieutenant Clausen, who discharged their duties with their usual politeness and hospitality. The regular annual invitation ball of Company H, Fifth regiment, Captain W. Lausen commanding, will take place at the Union Assembly Rooms, corner of Grand and Elizabeth streets, on Wednesday evening, February 17th.

Company C, of this regiment, Captain P. Krueger commanding, gave a grand invitation fancy dress ball on Monday evening, February 8th, at the New York Casino, 51 to 55 East Houston street. To say the least, the affair was as successful as any this company has held, and certainly the balls of Company C are always successful and enjoyable. The regimental band was in attendance, to the

intense satisfaction of the merry maskers, who seemed to be inspired with a love for fun on this particular occasion. Among the guests we noticed Lieutenant-Colonel Hillebrandt, Captain Kelm and Lieutenants Heim and Eidt, of the Fifth regiment; Colonel Lux, of the Eleventh regiment, and Lieutenant Wilson, Color-Sergeant Wilson and two privates, of the Twelfth regiment; with their new dress uniform, dark blue coat and light blue pants, trimmed with white, making a very handsome uniform, and showing to advantage, in contrast with the uniforms of others present. We are indebted to Captain Kraeger and Private Schaeffer for many attentions. The drum corps of this regiment, Charles Berchet, drum-major, will give an invitation military, civic and fancy dress ball on Monday evening, February 15th, at the regimental armory, 156 to 160 Hester street.

Drum-Major Charles Berchet, of the drum corps attached to this regiment, has issued a "tremendous invitation," as the cards state, for us to attend a military, civic and fancy dress ball, which will be held at the regimental armory, 156 Hester street, on the evening of the 15th inst. The drummers, with our friend Major Berchet as their leader, understand well how to have a merry time.

NINTH INFANTRY.—Colonel and Brevet Brigadier-General J. H. Wilcox has issued an order directing that the drills of this regiment be continued at the regimental armory, by battalions of three companies, in the following order: Companies B, C and F, Monday, February 15th, Tuesday, February 23d, Mondays, March 8th, 15th, 22d, 29th, April 12th, 19th; Companies D, A and I, Thursdays, February 18th, 25th, March 11th, 18th, 25th, April 8th, 15th, 22d; Companies E, H and G, Fridays, February 19th, 26th, March 12th, 19th, 26th, April 9th, 16th, 23d; under alternate commands of Lieutenant-Colonel Charles R. Braine and Major William Seward, Jr. A fine of six dollars will be imposed upon every member absent from his company at the above drills, without the approval of the commandant of this regiment. Commandants of companies will report to the adjutant on the day following their respective drills the names of absent members. The non-commissioned staff and color guard will assemble in uniform for instruction by the adjutant, on Wednesdays, February 17th, 24th, March 10th, 17th, 24th, April 14th, 21st. The resignation of the following officers having been accepted at General Headquarters, they are honorably discharged the State service: First Lieutenant Alexander McCook, First Lieutenant John A. Norman, First Lieutenant Francis F. Stone, Second Lieutenant Joseph B. Pollock, Second Lieutenant Joseph F. Swords, Second Lieutenant G. W. J. Coles. Captains William C. Barwis and John Raper, having tendered their resignations, are granted leave of absence until such time as an acceptance may be received from General Headquarters. Lieutenants Charles M. Schieffelin and Thomas J. Robertson are ordered to assume command of their respective companies. The following officers having been elected to the positions named will be obeyed and respected accordingly: Charles M. Schieffelin, first lieutenant, vice Benjamin, resigned; James F. J. Gunning, first lieutenant, vice Norman, resigned; Louis C. Hammersley, second lieutenant, vice Huyler, resigned; J. Alfred Therriott, second lieutenant, vice Pollock, resigned. Authority to organize a company to be known as Company K, Ninth regiment N. G. S. N. Y., having been granted, Lieutenant Noah Loder is detailed to recruit said company.

By order of Brigadier-General Varian, a Regimental Court-martial for the Ninth regiment is appointed to convene at the armory of the regiment, March 1st, at 8 o'clock P. M., for the trial of delinquent non-commissioned officers and privates of said regiment. Major William Seward, Jr., is detailed as President.

Company K, of this regiment, under the supervision of Lieutenant Loder, is rapidly filling up to the required number. Meetings are held every Wednesday evening at the armory, Nos. 221, 223 and 225 West Twenty-sixth street. Lieutenant Loder is a young and able officer, and is uniting in his efforts to fill his company with first class young men. His headquarters are at No. 88 Murray street, where any who may wish to join may apply.

FIFTY-FIFTH REGIMENT.—This regiment, now that it has been fully reorganized under Colonel Wm. B. Allen, begins to fall into its proper position in line among the regiments of the First division, and, under the new regime introduced, will compare favorably with the other regiments of the Third brigade. The new Adjutant, Lieutenant Charles W. Fuller, was formerly attached to the Third company of the Seventh regiment, which is a guarantee of the faithful performance of duties. Colonel Allen has issued an order directing the field and line officers to assemble at the armory (citizens' dress) for instruction, at 8 o'clock on the following evenings: Tuesday, February 23d; Monday, March 8th; Monday, March 22d. The following changes are announced: Appointments—Charles W. Fuller, adjutant, with rank from January 4th, vice Albert Marrer, promoted; Jacob Tarter, commissary of subsistence, rank from January 4th, vice Franklin Allen, position vacated; Washington A. Connolly, quartermaster, rank from January 4th, vice George P. Mickle, position vacated; W. M. Strew, surgeon, reappointed; Valentine Steitz, commissary sergeant, rank from January 4th, vice Pierson, returned to company; Peter Schnatz, right general guide, vice J. Lamorge, expiration of service. They will be obeyed and respected accordingly. Elections—John Guth, lieutenant-colonel, with rank from January 14th, vice Allen, promoted; Albert Marrer, captain, with rank from January 15th, vice Adam Hens, resigned; R. C. Hadley, first lieutenant, with rank from January 18th; R. Le Ferve, captain, with rank from January 29th, vice J. Tarter, resigned; Francois Des Rats, first lieutenant, with rank from January 29th, vice Le Ferve, promoted; Jules Dubois, second lieutenant, with rank from January 29th, vice Eypper, resigned. Respect and obedience will be paid in accordance. Resigned—Captain Jacob Tarter, January 21st; Captain Adam Hens, January 21st; Second Lieutenant Charles Eypper, December 30, 1868. This regiment is about making arrangements to secure a new armory. The Masonic Hall, corner of Fourth avenue and Thirteenth street, which is owned by the city, is talked of at present, and we hope some suitable place will be taken for the regiment; for their present accommodations in Avenue A do not deserve the name of an armory.

EIGHTH INFANTRY.—The regular annual invitation hop of Company A, Captain Joseph P. Kennedy commanding, took place on Friday evening, February 5th, at the regimental armory, over Centre Market. The armory was very handsomely decorated, and everything prepared for the reception of the guests, who came in such alarmingly large numbers and so fast that it was found necessary to open the entrance door which led through to the Sixth regiment armory, and engage an extra band of music for that room. This difficulty over, everything went on as merrily as a marriage bell until early in the morning. The order of dancing consisted of four cards in the shape of a letter A, with the dances, committees, etc., printed thereon in a very complete manner. Among the guests present we noticed, of the regiment, Colonel Carr, Lieutenant

Colonel Scott, Captains Durfee and Gilroy, Quartermaster Arnold and Lieutenant Tate; also Captain Cook, of the Squadron of Washington Greys, Cavalry; Captain McLean, of the Seventy-ninth, and Captain Casin, of the Second regiment. The committee of arrangements consisted of Lieutenant Bicker, as chairman, and six others; Captain Kennedy was chairman of the reception committee; Lieutenant Burke of the police committee, and Sergeant Bagley was in charge of the floor. The regimental band furnished the music.

SEVENTY-FIRST INFANTRY VETERAN ASSOCIATION.—The object of this organization, as announced in its rules and regulations, is to preserve and continue old associations and ties, to promote the social welfare of the members of the regiment, and to further the interests of the association. Any person who shall have been or is entitled to be honorably discharged from service in the regiment shall be eligible to membership. Five negative ballots being sufficient to reject any person.

The entrance fee shall be fifteen dollars, which shall include a badge of this association; and the annual dues shall be four dollars, but any member, upon payment to the treasurer the sum of fifty dollars, shall thereafter be exempt from the payment of annual dues. The officers of the association shall be a colonel, lieutenant-colonel, senior and junior major, adjutant, engineer, quartermaster, commissary, paymaster, chaplain, surgeon, assistant surgeon, who shall, by virtue of their positions, be president, vice-president, etc. In addition there shall be ten captains, ten first lieutenants and ten second lieutenants, who, with the above officers, shall constitute a Board of Management, of which ten shall constitute a quorum. The members of the board shall be elected at the annual meeting. The board shall appoint from their number an executive committee of five, who shall have a general supervision of the affairs of the association under direction of the board. The annual meeting shall be held on the 21st day of April, being the anniversary of the first departure of the Seventy-first regiment for Washington, to enter the service of the United States. In addition there shall be stated meetings, on the second Friday of July, October and January of each year.

The officers for 1869 are: Colonel, Henry P. Martin; Lieutenant-Colonel, Charles Henry Smith; senior Major, George A. Osgood; junior Major, Benjamin L. Traford; Adjutant, D. C. Meechutt; Engineer, E. A. Quintard; Quartermaster, George W. Rosevelt; Commissary, James T. Sanford; Paymaster, Philip R. Wilkins; Surgeon, Dr. Chas. McMillan; Assistant Surgeon, Dr. James B. Reynolds.

Executive Committee.—Lieutenant-Colonel Harry A. Rockefeller, 47 Walker street; Major George D. Wolcott, 144 Fulton street; Adjutant A. T. Francis, 30 Broad street; Captain O. P. Smith, Mechanics' and Traders' Bank; Captain Seymour A. Bunce, 58 Bowery.

WASHINGTON GREY CAVALRY.—We have to acknowledge the receipt of invitations to attend the reception of this command, for the evening of the 22d inst. The programme as arranged includes the presentation of colors by Mayor Hall, on behalf of the city of New York, and the reception on behalf of the command by Judge Barnard, both of whom are honorary members of the command. To those who have had the pleasure of listening to the appropriate remarks of our talented Mayor on other occasions we would say go and hear him again if you can procure cards of admission, and to those who have never heard him we would say exert yourselves to procure invitations before the others are ahead of you, for we are assured that on this occasion he will exceed his former efforts, as he has taken a great personal interest in the welfare of the command. Of Judge Barnard's efforts in the same behalf, we can only refer to his daily duties in the judiciary; every one knowing that whatever he tries to do is always well and handsomely done. We had occasion in our last issue to refer to the mysterious movements of the committee of arrangements who have charge of the affair of the 22d, since which some of their movements have been watched by our special, and he has learned that it is their intention to keep just as mysterious as ever, and we hope we do not violate confidence by making the statement to that effect. But we may state en passant that our old friend Harvey B. Dodworth has been engaged to wield the baton of the orchestra, which in itself insures to the guests and command an entertainment well worth the visit, and we again advise all our friends who may be fortunate enough to secure invitations not to neglect the opportunity of passing a most agreeable evening.

SIXTH INFANTRY.—Colonel Albert Steinway, commanding this regiment, has tendered his resignation on account of ill health, and intends visiting Europe to recuperate. At a meeting of the officers of the regiment, held at the residence of the colonel on Monday evening last, it was resolved to offer the command to Brevet Brigadier-General Bendix, colonel commanding the Third Infantry.

FIRST INFANTRY (HAWKINS ZOUAVES).—Colonel Hawkins having resigned the command of this regiment two field officers' positions are left vacant. Lieutenant-Colonel Perley is the candidate for colonel, and will, no doubt, be elected; as for the other vacant position of major, nearly every captain in the regiment is a candidate. We hope the regiment will make a good selection.

FIRST CAVALRY BRIGADE.—A court has been ordered in this brigade for the trial of commissioned officers of this brigade. The court will assemble at the armory of the First regiment Cavalry, on the 25th of February, at 7 1/2 P. M. The members of this court consist of Colonel Henry Brinker, Major F. W. Schmale and Adjutant David D. Weylie.

SEVENTY-FIRST REGIMENT.—Captain H. H. Everson, commanding Company B of this regiment, having received a furlough and been compelled to leave the city on business, was tendered a farewell surprise at his residence in Barrow street, by the members of his company, on Friday evening, the 5th instant. Some forty couples were in attendance, and the affair was managed with the utmost secrecy, which made it a total surprise to the captain. Excellent music and supper were provided, and the merry time was continued until a late hour. Many officers of the regiment were present, and Sergeant Robert Sorsor was chairman of the committee of arrangements.

ELEVENTH INFANTRY.—The annual ball of this regiment will take place on Monday evening, February 22d, at the Germania Assembly Rooms, 291 and 293 Bowery.

FIRST REGIMENT CAVALRY.—Colonel Henry Brinker, commanding this regiment, has issued an order directing that the February quarterly meeting of the Board of Officers take place February 23d, at Lieutenant-Colonel Ittner's Hotel, 106 Grand street, at 7 1/2 o'clock P. M. Squadron commanders are requested to present a roll at this meeting of all members that want to belong to, and contribute to the Widows' and Orphans' fund of this regiment. Every officer must attend this meeting and pay up his fines and dues, otherwise they will be collected by court-martial. This regiment has adopted

the plan of providing a Widows' and Orphans' Fund, and nearly every member of the regiment has contributed to the fund.

THIRTEENTH INFANTRY.—The Field Officers' Board for the examination of non-commissioned officers report that First Sergeant Hayward Smith, Company A, passed an exceedingly creditable examination; Sergeant Fisher Napier, Company A, and First Sergeant George W. Kempton, Company D, passed; Sergeant Dexter M. Swaney, Company B, passed a creditable examination. The Regimental Examining Board of this regiment, organized in compliance with General Orders No. 13, series of 1866, and before whom all enlisted men must graduate before they can obtain promotion in this command, will be continued; and the following officers are detailed as said board, viz.: Major Frederick A. Mason, Captain Philip H. Briggs, Capt. John C. Lefferts. First Lieut. and Commissary John P. Scrymser is detailed as recorder of the board organized for the examination of non-commissioned officers, until further orders. Gen. Jourdan notifies his command that it is an absolute necessity that no member of the command should continue to hold a position, either as an officer or non-commissioned officer, who will not or cannot procure his full dress uniform. Company commanders are directed to forward to regimental headquarters, on or before the 15th day of February next the names of any officer or non-commissioned officers of their respective commands who have not procured their full dress uniforms.

This regiment assembled for drill at the Portland avenue arsenal, Brooklyn, on Wednesday evening the 10th inst. Brevet Major-General Jourdan, colonel, was in command, assisted by Lieutenant-Colonel Dakin, Major Mason and Adjutant Stanley. There were present ten commands of eight files front and the command was exercised in marching in column of fours; column of fours break from the right to march to the left; company ditto, and some few other general movements. The battalion then stacked arms and company drills were held, as announced in our last issue, Companies H, C, B and G showing the most proficiency. At the conclusion of these drills the battalion was reformed and the regiment exercised in the formality of a review, which was only fairly performed, a few of the officers saluting improperly. The colonel repeated this movement, placing two markers at the point where the salute should commence and end after review. The regiment then formed for dress parade, during which the adjutant became somewhat confused and the battalion was compelled to be broken by companies and reformed. The command was then exercised in a portion of the manual of arms, which was very fairly executed. At the conclusion of this the battalion formed three sides of a square. The colonel then complimented the officers and men on their strict attention to duty, and referred to the growing strength and esprit de corps of the regiment, closing by presenting, on behalf of the board of officers, to Captain J. C. Lefferts, commanding Company A, an elegant gold medal, this company having recruited the largest number of men between the months of February and October, 1868. Captain Lefferts replied on behalf of the company in a happy style. After the presentation of the medal the regiment was dismissed. Although the evening was very unpropitious quite a number of spectators were present, among whom were a few ladies.

THE STATE ARSENAL AND ARMORIES.—Now that the State Arsenal has been declared unsafe for drill purposes, the question is asked: Where are the regiments to drill this season? The Seventh and the Twenty-second are well provided; but with the exception of these there is not an armory in the city that has sufficient space to manoeuvre a battalion of over two small commands as they should be. Wing drill of four and five commands with small frontage have been taking place at most of the regimental armories, but are generally unsatisfactory in the end, the movements of necessity being confined in their execution. We understand that several regiments that have small quarters intend using the old dilapidated arsenal in Elm street, which has for some time past been used as a sort of hospital by the City Dispensary, whose building has been undergoing repairs. We hardly think that this building would be considered safe, for perhaps the fetid atmosphere arising from diseased patients may still linger within its walls. Several bills have been introduced into the Legislature for the erection of armories for the First Division, but we would suggest the following plan among the many that have been brought to our attention: 1st, That the National Guard of this State be placed entirely under the control of the Commander-in-Chief; that instead of the present monetary system, by which the local authorities pay for the rental, etc., of the armories; that an amount equal to one dollar for each vote, be provided for, in the tax levy, for all such expenses as are now borne by said authorities, and that the moneys thus obtained be disbursed by the paymaster of the Governor's staff. For the accommodation of the First Division, five armories will be needed, one for the use of each brigade, and to be located in different parts of the city, for instance; one on Tompkins Square, Washington Square, Reservoir Square, and two others be situated between 14th and 40th streets, one on the eastern portion of the city, and the other on the western side. Thus in case of a riot or any sudden commotion in the city, five rallying points would be provided for. These armories should be at least 300x400 feet in extent, and two stories in height, the first floor for drilling purposes and the second floor to be used as brigade, regimental, and company rooms. The buildings should be built in substantial style, with good ventilation and roomy entrances and stairways. The same plan could include the Second Division, two armories of the above nature would accommodate their wants. There is no good reason why the whole State should not be equally taxed for the erection of these armories. The border counties which have probably the smallest number in the National Guard, in case of a war with any foreign nation, would certainly most need protection, and would therefore be the first to call on the First and Second Divisions which are recruited from localities which now pay the most toward the support of the State forces. The sale of the State arsenals in this city and Brooklyn would make a nucleus to start with, and the tax levy would be sufficient, we think, to cover the whole additional expense, and would thus come evenly and easily on the people. If the plan of excluding the local authorities would not work, a Board might be appointed to carry out the plans, to consist of representatives of the State and Counties of New York and Kings.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS, STATE OF NEW YORK,
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, ALBANY, Jan. 23, 1869.

General Orders No. 5.
Brigadier-General John Williams, of Rochester, Monroe County, having been appointed by the Governor (by and with the advice and consent of the Senate), Major-General of the Seventh division National Guard of the State of New York, he is hereby announced as such, and will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By order of the Commander-in-Chief.

FRANKLIN TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

THE following resolutions were adopted at a meeting of the petty officers of the U. S. ship *Cyane*, held on board, the 20th day of January, to take into consideration the death of our late lamented shipmate, Dennis Whealan, orderly sergeant U. S. M. C., and to testify the respect and esteem in which he was held by his shipmates:

Whereas, It has pleased the Almighty God to take our shipmate, Dennis Whealan, orderly sergeant, from our midst; therefore be it

Resolved, That the death of Orderly Sergeant Dennis Whealan has bereft us of a dear and valued friend, who, while living, we cherished as a good and faithful comrade; that we miss the genial face, the well-tried, warm and trusting heart of him whose loss we mourn more deeply than words can tell.

Resolved, That we, his messmates, do hereby express our heartfelt sympathy with all who mourn the loss of the deceased; especially do we tender the same to his relatives.

Resolved, That the secretary of the meeting be directed to transmit a copy of these proceedings to the relatives of the deceased, and also a copy of the same to the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL for publication.

MARTIN RYNE, Master-at-Arms, Chairman.
GEORGE RIEMANN, Yeoman, Secretary.
D. C. PORTER, Apothecary.
ROBERT C. COWAN, Paymaster's Writer.
Rochester papers please copy.

AN affray occurred Monday afternoon last in Montgomery street, Jersey City, between two soldiers of the regular Army, one of whom had the other in custody on his way to Fort Delaware. The prisoner, Henry Hunter, escaped from the service at Buffalo some time ago, and had been condemned to six months' imprisonment with ball and chain in Fort Delaware. Corporal Delonge, who had him in custody, unlocked the handcuffs from one of the prisoner's hands while the two went into a saloon in Montgomery street to get a drink. While within the prisoner made an attempt to escape and was caught by his custodian, when he turned upon the latter and struck him a heavy blow upon the head with the handcuffs, inflicting a deep and bloody wound. The corporal drew his revolver and struck Hunter, knocking him down, and thereby securing him. The soldier was then taken to the police station, where he was placed in confinement. Both the corporal and the prisoner bear bloody and dangerous wounds.

AN amusing incident occurred at the opening of the French Chambers on January 1st. A newly-appointed attaché at the American embassy came to witness the ceremony, but being unknown to the police, was stopped by the two officials at the door, who asked him his name. The attaché answered something in English, and attempted to pass on, but the officials refused to admit him. This so enraged the American that he seized the two officials by the collar, and knocked their heads against each other two or three times. An officer now came up and asked the attaché for his card, which was immediately produced, and had a remarkable effect on the conduct of the policemen, notwithstanding the hard usage they had received. They bowed profoundly, and with much *emprossement* showed the attaché to his seat.

THE Warren (Pa.) *Ledger* says: Charles O'Bail, the only son of "Cornplanter," died at his residence, at Cornplanter, on the 31st ultimo, at the advanced age of one hundred years. Contrary to the usual custom of the Indians, he was laid out in common citizen's dress. Charles was the last of the sons of the renowned Cornplanter, and the last of the children except one daughter, aged now between seventy-five and one hundred years. The Cornplanter Indians are fast disappearing, numbering now not more than about eighty inhabitants. Charles O'Bail was a man of thought; with his death the line of the Cornplanter chiefs become extinct.

IN a communication to Paris, M. de Lesseps states that a small schooner, *La Levrette*, has recently passed through the Suez Canal, and that six vessels belonging to the Egyptian fleet are about to pass from one sea to the other. It now may be safely said that this canal is opened for vessels of small tonnage; and in six months' time ships of from 2,000 to 3,000 tons burden will be able to make use of the Suez Canal.

A MAN from the interior of Pennsylvania, lost his pocketbook a day or two ago. A bystander saw the theft, but refused to describe the pickpocket. In explanation of this strange refusal, he asked the victim, "Why did you charge me ten cents for a drink of water when I was in the Army at Gettysburg?" There was nothing more to be said after that.

CALISAYA BARK.—It is said that Messrs. Drake & Co., (proprietors of the PLANTATION BITTERS) are the largest importers of Calisaya Bark in this country, and that, with the exception of an occasional sale, all they import is used in the compounding of their celebrated PLANTATION BITTERS—to which they undoubtedly are indebted for their wonderful health giving properties. As a Tonic and Appetizer they are not surpassed, and we cheerfully recommend them. All first-class Druggists keep them for sale.

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HEAT AND EAT—PROF. BLOT'S SOUPS.—Tomato, Pea, Julienne, Vermicelli, Italian Pastes, Consommé, Mock-Turtle, Ox-Tail, Green Turtle and Terrapin in cans for immediate use, particularly suitable for the Army and Navy. DEPOT, 2 VESEY ST., NEW YORK. A. C. BLOT, Agent.

MARRIED.

[Announcements of Marriages should be paid for at the rate of fifty cents each.]

CRAGG—RIGGS.—At Darmstadt, September 5, 1868. In presence of U. S. Consul-General W. W. Murphy, by Rev. J. C. Flood (and subsequently at U. S. Legation, Paris). S. WILKINS CRAGG, Engineer Corps, U. S. Navy, to MARY ALICE, only daughter of the late Eliza Riggs of New York.

MALE—WOOD.—On Tuesday, the 9th inst., at the residence of the bride's uncle, S. L. Husted, Esq., Brooklyn, N. Y., by the Rev. D. V. Mr. Johnson, FANNY H. WOOD, step-daughter of the late Hon. John A. Cross, and granddaughter of Stephen Wood, Esq., of Bedford, Westchester Co., N. Y., to Captain W. H. MALE, Thirty-sixth Infantry, U. S. A. All of this city.

RANDOL—GUION.—At Brownsville, Texas, Saturday, January 23d, at the residence of the bride's mother, by the Rev. S. Porter, Captain A. M. RANDOL, First U. S. Artillery, Brevet Colonel U. S. A., to LIZZIE R., daughter of the Rev. Elijah Guion, Chaplain U. S. A. No cards.

JOYES—STRATTON.—At Waterloo, N. Y., on the 2d inst., by the Rev. T. Keenan, Roman Catholic pastor, JAMES JOYES, U. S. Army, to CHARLOTTE L., only daughter of T. J. Stratton, of Waterloo. No cards.

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New York.

TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

NEW YORK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY,

OFFICE

Nos. 112 and 114 Broadway.

January 1, 1869.

Amount of Net Cash Assets, Jan. 1, 1868.....	\$8,774,326 01
Amount of Premiums received during 1868.....	\$3,912,136 07
Amount of Interest received and accrued, including premium on gold, etc.....	766,144 13
	4,678,280 20
	\$13,452,606 21

DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid Losses by Death.....	\$741,043 22
Paid Annuities and for surrendered and cancelled policies.....	135,863 45
Paid Dividends.....	1,225,865 26
Paid Commissions and Agency Expenses.....	493,714 72
Paid Advertising, Physicians' Fees and Re-insurances.....	76,978 87
Paid Salaries, Printing, Office and Law Expenses.....	130,558 64
Paid Taxes and Internal Revenue Stamps.....	35,107 60
	2,839,131 76
	\$10,613,474 45

ASSETS.

Cash on hand, in Bank and in Trust Company.....	\$397,351 51
Invested in United States Stocks—cost.....	2,978,907 49
(Market value, \$3,154,808 75)	
Invested in New York City Bank Stocks.....	41,549 00
(Market value, \$47,862)	
Invested in New York State Stocks.....	947,856 42
(Market value, \$991,070)	
Invested in other Stocks.....	210,879 69
(Market value, \$222,500)	
Loans on demand, secured by U. S. and other stocks. (Market value of securities, \$505,745 50)	408,100 00
Real estate.....	878,806 59
(Market value, \$1,028,806 50)	
Bonds and mortgages.....	2,389,900 00
Secured by real estate, valued at over \$5,000,000 (buildings thereon insured for \$2,065,700, and the policies assigned to the company as additional collateral security)	
Loans on existing policies.....	1,237,735 63
Quarterly and semi-annual premiums, due subsequent to Jan. 1, 1869.....	475,066 07
Interest accrued to Jan. 1, 1869.....	60,449 41
Rents accrued to Jan. 1, 1869.....	2,387 76
Premiums in hands of Agents and in course of transmission.....	564,784 85
	\$10,613,474 45
Add excess of market value of investments over costs.....	387,345 15
	\$11,000,819 60

Cash Assets January 1, 1869.....\$11,000,819 60

LIABILITIES OF THE COMPANY.

Amount of Adjusted Losses due subsequent to January 1, 1869.....	\$92,131 00
Amount of Reported Losses awaiting proofs, etc.....	18,700 00
Amount reserved for re-insurances on existing policies:	

(\$36,897,710 10. Partially-insured at 4 per cent. Carlsle, Net Premiums \$1,047,434 65 non-partially-insured at 5 per cent. Carlsle, Net Premiums) 8,473,504 63 Return premium 1868, and prior thereto; payable during the year..... 727,115 40 9,311,504 63

Divisible Surplus.....\$1,689,282 17 During the year 9,105 Policies have been issued, insuring.....\$30,765,947 67

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES HAS DIRECTED the redemption, on and after the first Monday in March next, of the last and only outstanding Scrip Dividend (that of 1867), and from the Undivided Surplus of \$1,689,282 17 they have declared a CASH DIVIDEND, available on settlement of next annual premium, to each participating policy proportioned to its "contribution to surplus." Dividends not used in settlement of premium will be added to the policy.

By order of the Board.

WM. H. BEERS, Vice-Pres. and Actuary.

TRUSTEES.

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Jan. 20, 1869.

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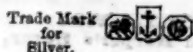
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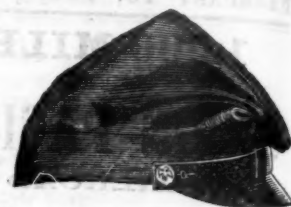
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Holders of tickets for the reception at the Academy of Music on the 22d inst., are notified that they can procure private boxes at Messrs. C. H. DITSON & CO., 711 Broadway, and Captain A. L. WEBBER, 688 Broadway.